THE

Board of Trade Journal.

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The price of the "Board of Trade Journal" will be Threepence per number from the beginning of next year.

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at **73, Basinghall Street,** London, E.C. — registered telegraphic address, "**Advantage, London,**" telephone number **12807 Central.** A statement of the objects and work of the Branch will be found on p. 634.

The attention of British traders is directed to the Sample Room, where the following are on view, with other exhibits:—

Samples.	Reference in "Board of Trade Journal." Date.	Page.
Vegetable Fat from Guatemala	27th Dec., 1906	625
Guayule Rubber, raw and manufactured, from Mexico ...	20th " "	575
Sundry fibres from Mexico	15th Nov., "	325
Hosiery Yarn from Mexico	" " "	325
Wild cotton from Hayti	" " "	320
Sardines tinned at Santander	8th Nov., "	279
Vegetable Fibres from Chungking	1st Nov., "	225
Sweaters, of German make, used by the Chinese	11th Oct., "	56
Japanese Paper, Flannelette and Cottons sold in Corea ...	13th Sept., "	512
Specimens of Chinese Padlocks and Keys	9th Aug., "	255
Foreign Cotton Goods sold at Tangier	12th July, "	58
Cotton grown in Natal	" " "	82
Tin of United States Enamel Paint sold in Peru	5th " "	10
Foreign Flannelette sold at Erzeroum	" " "	35
American Cottons sold at Chinkiang (small cuttings) ...	28th June, "	637
List of Chinese written characters suitable for novelties for the Chinese market	" " "	621
Specimen of Chinese Students' uniform	31st May, "	407
Cotton grown in Spain	24th " "	382
Zapupe fibre from Mexico	17th " "	324
Guatemala cotton said to be weevil-resisting	19th April "	128
Cotton cloth manufactured at Ichang	" " "	126
Raw Argentine cotton, bobbins of yarn and patterns of knitted material from Buenos Ayres	5th " "	36

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—India, Dominion of Canada, Queensland, Cape of Good Hope, Transvaal and Orange River Colony. Statements of the objects and work of these Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 635.

A statement of the Import Duties being levied by resolution under the new Canadian Tariff Proposals is published as a Supplement to the present issue of the "Journal."

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

BRITISH INDIA.

Railway Stores.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of deck spans (from 4 ft. 6 ins. to 31 ft. 5 ins. in the clear), spring steel, metals (antimony, brass, copper, lead and zinc), canvas, &c., firebricks, paints, &c., lamps, lamp fittings, miscellaneous glass, and bolts, rivets, &c., as per specifications to be seen at the Company's offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Deck Spans," or as the case may be, not later than noon on the 9th January. The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender. For each specification a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.* is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

Street Lamps and Posts.

The "Indian Trade Journal," the organ of the Commercial Intelligence Department of India, announces that the Government of the United Provinces desire to draw the attention of the mercantile community to the fact that in the Municipalities of those Provinces there is dissatisfaction with the types of lamp and post which are available in the market at ordinary prices for the purpose of street lighting; and that there is an expressed need for a serviceable standard lamp, wick and post, which will not be too expensive, for adoption by the poorer towns. It is expected that there will be a general trial of the samples offered by way of experiment, in order that the best may be selected. A list of the Municipalities of the Province may be obtained by any firm on application to the Secretary to the Government of the United Provinces (Municipal Department), Allahabad.

CANADA.

Commercial Enquiries.

The following commercial enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government Offices, 17, Victoria Street, London, S.W.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A London paper agent and merchant dealing in paper and boards is desirous of corresponding with Canadian manufacturers who are seeking English trade.

A merchant and commission agent in Scotland, calling on the hardware trade generally, wishes to obtain the agency of a Canadian house offering washboards or other wooden ware, as well as other goods suitable for his business.

A London firm dealing largely in alcohol desire to correspond with Canadian users who are likely to import.

Openings for British Trade.

A firm manufacturing embroidery, &c., are seeking to extend their business with Canadian makers of children's clothing and millinery.

A Scotch firm desire to get into touch with reliable Canadian shippers of potatoes, with a view to securing supplies of the leading varieties for trial for seed purposes.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, S.W.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Oil and Gasoline Engines.

The Colonial Secretary, Belize, reports that there is a large demand in British Honduras for oil or gasoline engines in proportion to the population of the Colony, but he is unaware of any British firm which supply them to the Colony. A large number are, however, imported by private persons from the United States, and one is known to have come from Copenhagen. A Leipzig firm of gas and oil engine makers have agents in Belize.

EGYPT.

Sale of Old War Materials.

H.M. Consul at Cairo (Mr. A. D. Alban) reports that the Egyptian War Department invite tenders for the purchase of old war materials, tenders to reach the Financial Secretary's Office, Cairo, by the 4th February, on stamped paper, which may be obtained from the London Agent, Lt.-Col. J. H. Western, R.E., C.M.G., Queen Anne's Chambers, Broadway, Westminster, London, S.W. A copy of the specification and a list of the materials to be sold may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

RUSSIA.

Bridgework.

The "Journal de St. Pétersbourg" states that the Municipal Council of St. Petersburg have decided on the reconstruction of all the bridges crossed by the electric tramways. Work will be commenced on the Ekateringofka bridge in the course of next January or February; the cost has been estimated at from 600,000 to 700,000 roubles.

NORWAY.

Galvanized Steel Plates, Angles and Flat Steel.

The Acting British Consul at Christiania (Mr. H. C. Dick) reports that tenders are invited by the Norwegian Naval Authorities for the supply of galvanized steel plates, angles and flat steel ("fladstaal").

Tenders in sealed envelopes marked "Anbud

Openings for British Trade.

paa galv. staalplader, &c." should be delivered at "Marinens Intendantur, Horten," not later than 1 p.m. on the 11th January, 1907.

The Acting Consul has sent copies of the conditions of tender and of the specification: these may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

NOTE.—Apart from the usual Customs duties, a preference of from 10 to 15 per cent. is given to Norwegian manufacturers.

In all cases of Norwegian Government contracts it is obligatory that a resident agent should act for tenderers not residing in Norway, and be responsible to the Government, but it is not necessary for the agent to be a Norwegian firm.

NETHERLANDS—JAVA.

Railway Plant.

The "Dépêche Coloniale" states that the Dutch Government propose to take in hand the construction of a railway from Tjikampele to Cheribon, thus linking up the Western railways of Java with the privately owned line from Samarang to Cheribon, and establishing railway communication between the three chief ports of the island.

FRANCE—TUNIS.

Railway Plant.

The "Dépêche Coloniale" states that a project of law, authorising the Government of Tunis to raise a loan of 75,000,000 frs. (about 3,000,000*l.*) to promote measures for the industrial development of that country, is under the consideration of the Commission of Foreign and Colonial Affairs. It is proposed to apportion this sum as follows:—30,000,000 frs. (about 1,200,000*l.*) for the completion of the existing railway system; 28,000,000 frs. (about 1,120,000*l.*) for the construction of new railways; 12,000,000 frs. (about 480,000*l.*) for road construction; and 5,000,000 frs. (about 200,000*l.*) for the purchase of lands for colonisation.

SPANISH WEST AFRICA.

Proposed Development by Private Enterprise.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 18th December contains a copy of a project of law to provide for the expenses of the administration of Spanish West Africa in 1907. Article 8 of this law authorises the Government to enter into agreements with companies or private firms for the exploitation, or even the administration, of the Spanish possessions in West Africa, or a part thereof. The approval of the Cortes would only be needed for agreements granting adminstrative powers.

Openings for British Trade.

ITALY.

The following extracts from the December Bulletin of the French Chamber of Commerce at Milan indicate possible openings for British trade :—

Water Works Plant.

Three separate schemes are proposed with a view to supplying drinking water to the city of Genoa and its environs, and applications for concessions have been made to the Prefecture by the engineers S. Bruno, C. Rossi, Charles Fuselli and G. Biondi.

Plant for Chemical Works.

The establishment of a chemical manure manufactory is proposed at Foligno, and a Committee, including the President of the Agricultural Committee is considering the question. A similar undertaking is proposed at Plaisance.

Textile Machinery.

The formation of a company with a capital of 1,200,000 lire (48,000*l.*) is contemplated for a cotton-spinning establishment at Plaisance with a preliminary installation of 12,000 spindles. Thomas Columbo, Michelange Buonvicino and Mauro Amoruso have the project in hand. The "Filature Lombarde" of Milan have decided on starting a new flax spinning mill at Pontevico (Brescia).

Hydro-Electric Plant.

Water power concessions have been granted as follows:—

To the electric railway company of the Valle Brembana, Bergamo, from the river Brembo, to be converted into electric energy for use on the Bergamo—S. Giovanni Bianco Railway. To Maltei Umberto and Boni Carlo of Settimio, Pisa, from the river Cascina at Ponsacco. To the electric company Charles Zanchi & Co., of Bergamo, from the Vanzarolo torrent at Rota Dentro.

The Provincial Council of Naples has approved a scheme, involving an expenditure of 390,000*l.*, for the derivation of water power from the Volturno, in the province of Campobasso, transforming it into electric energy for use in Naples.

Electric Railway and Tramway Plant.

A company has been formed in Rome, under the title of the "Marina di Roma" for the purpose of providing direct communication by electric railway between the capital and Laurentina. The expenses of construction, rolling stock, &c., are estimated at 140,000*l.*

A new electric tramway line is proposed between Varesa and Angera, at a cost of about 60,000*l.*, under plans made out by the engineer Strada.

OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

Tramway Plant.

The "Levant Herald" states that the Municipality of Konia have been authorised to construct two tramway lines (animal traction) in that town.

Openings for British Trade.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—PHILIPPINES.

Drainage and Water Works.

The Philippine "Official Gazette" of 7th November contains a copy of a Law authorising the expenditure of 1,834,000 pesos, for the purpose of constructing sewers in Manila and furnishing that city with an adequate drainage system and water supply.

Men's Leather Belts.

The New South Wales Commercial Agent in the East (Mr. J. B. Suttor) has reported an opening for leather, especially for belts for men's wear, in the Philippine Islands. A Filipino, he says, does not consider himself properly attired unless he has a broad belt, two and a half inches wide, and ornamented with a gay buckle. In fact the belt is now universally used.

MEXICO.

Plant for Chemical Works: Electric Lighting Plant: Fire Extinguishing Apparatus.

The Mexican "Diario Oficial" of 28th November contains a copy of a contract entered into between the Ministry of "Fomento" and Mr. E. Du Bois, representing the Roessler and Hasslacher Chemical Company, for the establishment of a manufactory of alkaline cyanides of sodium and potassium. The company undertake to spend at least 200,000 pesos on the erection of the works, which must be commenced within a year and finished within three years from the date of approval of plans. Machinery, apparatus and building materials needed for the work may be imported free of duty; the necessary electric lighting plant and fire extinguishing apparatus will also be granted exemption from duty provided all such are imported at the same time.

Hydro-Electric Plant: Telegraph Wire.

The same issue of the "Diario" contains copy of a law authorising Señor Manuel Rivero Collada to appropriate 20,000 litres of water per second from the river Atoyac, District of Puebla, for the production of motive power. He is also authorised to construct any telegraph and telephone lines that may be needed. Machinery, scientific instruments, and apparatus needed for these works will be granted exemption from import duty, provided all are imported at the same time.

Building Plant.

The "Diario" of 3rd December contains a notice appropriating certain lands in Mexico City, for the erection of a National Museum of Archeology, Ethnography and History.

Openings for British Trade.

PANAMA.

Construction of Panama Canal: Contractors to be Americans.

With reference to the notice on pp. 152-3 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 25th October last, respecting the contract for the construction of the Panama Canal, a cablegram has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from the British Commercial Agent in the United States to the effect that the contracting parties for this work must be American.

It may be noted that the date for opening tenders has been postponed from 12th December to 12th January.

CHILE.

The "Revista Comercial" (Valparaiso) of 17th November notifies applications by :—

Electric and Steam Railway Plant.

1. Don Salvador Izquierdo for permission to construct a railway from Camarones to the Bolivian frontier;
2. Don Domingo Itaegui for permission to construct an electric railway from the Government warehouses in Valparaiso to Peñuelas;
3. Don Osvaldo Camus for permission to construct an electric railway from Quinteros to Valparaiso and Calera.

It is added that the Chamber of Deputies has approved a scheme for the construction of a railway from Osorus to Puerto Montt.

Building Plant.

The "Revista" also reports that the Senate has approved a project of law providing for the expenditure of 500,000 pesos (about 31,250*l.*) on the promotion of immigration, and 50,000 pesos (about 3,125*l.*) on the erection of an emigrants' shelter at Valparaiso.

The following new companies are noted in the "Revista":—

Textile Machinery.

1. A company formed in Concepcion by Mr. E. Grant and four others, entitled "Fabrica de Tejidos de Concepcion," to run a weaving mill, formerly owned by Mr. G. Hoft, in that city: capital 130,000 pesos (about 8,125*l.*).

Nailmaking Plant.

2. A company formed in Concepcion by Mr. P. R. Mulgrew and four others, entitled "Sociedad Fabrica de Clavos," to establish a nail factory: capital 100,000 pesos (about 6,250*l.*).

JAPAN.

Leather Belting.

The "Australasian Leather Trades Review" publishes particulars of an interview by its representative with the New South Wales Commercial Agent in the East (Mr. J. B. Suttor), in the course of

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which Mr. Suttor stated, in regard to the development of the leather trade of the East :—

"It is simply marvellous the changes that are taking place. The leathers in demand are sole, upper, and belting goods. The last-mentioned class of leather will be the medium of very extensive importations. One has only to remember the great industrial progress that is taking place in Japan to recognise the opening for belting leather. Factories are springing up on all sides, and the old water-wheel power is being superseded by machinery, which naturally creates a constant demand for belting."

EXHIBITIONS.

ST. HELENA.

Exhibition of Samples of Local Products.

The St. Helena Committee in London are holding early in January a small exhibition of samples of manganese ore, minerals, cotton, dressed flax and alse fibre at Caxton Hall, Westminster, London, S.W. These products have been sent over specially by His Excellency the Governor of St. Helena.

ROUMANIA.

Abandonment of Proposed Roumanian Exhibition in London.

H.M. Legation in Bucharest reports that the proposal to hold a Roumanian Exhibition in London during 1908 (see p. 398 of "Board of Trade Journal" of 29th November) has been rejected by the Roumanian Council of Ministers.

BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

Santa Catharina (Brazil).—The British Vice-Consul at Florianopolis (Mr. W. B. Chaplin) in alluding in his recent report to the success of German importations into his district, remarks as follows :—

"The greatest drawback to the importation of British goods is their weight. Merchants complain that the British article, as a rule, is much heavier than the German, and duties being paid on the weight the German article is much cheaper.

"There are no British business houses in this State. If some of the British manufacturers or exporting firms were to combine and establish an agency in this State, British trade would largely increase.

"I must call the attention of the British exporting houses and manufacturers to the great necessity of having their price lists, &c., printed in the Portuguese language, and not in Spanish or English as is invariably the custom. As a rule the merchants will not take the trouble to look at the numerous lists sent out annually in the Spanish and English languages. When practicable the labels should be also in Portuguese and the weights in kilogrammes." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,737.)

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade has been in the habit of forwarding to Chambers of Commerce for the confidential use of their members, but not for publication, information to which it has appeared desirable in the interests of British trade to draw attention confidentially.

The plan has met with general approval, and it is intended to continue and extend it. In order to attain more fully the purpose of the Board, namely, to reach all British manufacturers or traders interested, it has been decided, on the recommendation of the Commercial Intelligence Committee, to supplement the existing system, by opening, on 1st January, 1907, a register at the Commercial Intelligence Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., of British firms who may desire to receive confidential information relative to their respective trades.

British firms desiring to have their names entered on this list should apply to the Commercial Intelligence Branch on the form which has been prepared for the purpose, copies of which may be obtained on application at the offices of the Branch.

The admission to the register, as well as the retention upon it, of any firm will be at the discretion of the Board of Trade. It is not proposed to make any charge for information supplied, but every firm admitted to the register will be required to become a subscriber to the "Board of Trade Journal" (and register as such with Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.), in order to ensure that those who wish to receive confidential information should first be in possession of all the official information relating to their particular trade which is published in that Journal.

The present scheme is provisional and experimental, and its continuance and future development will depend on the results of experience.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH HANDBOOK

A Handbook to the Commercial Intelligence Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., has been issued by the Board of Trade, with the sanction of the Advisory Committee on Commercial Intelligence. This handbook contains, *inter alia* particulars as to:—The subjects dealt with, and the nature of the information supplied by the Commercial Intelligence Branch; the Advisory Committee on Commercial Intelligence and its relation to the Intelligence Branch; the Correspondents of the Commercial Intelligence Branch in British Colonies and Foreign Countries; and the principal Official Returns, Trade Directories, &c., which can be consulted at the Branch.

Copies of the Handbook may be obtained on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

AGRICULTURE IN THE CAUCASUS.

The following particulars of the cultivation of and trade in certain products in the Caucasus are extracted from a report received, through the Foreign Office, from H.M. Consul at Batoum (Mr. P. Stevens):—

The output of the **cotton** crop, which is principally cultivated in the Government of Erivan, has been more abundant than in other districts of the Trans-Caucasus in which this fibrous plant is grown, and the yield averages about 13 pouds per dessiatine, or 856 lb. of pure yarn per 2·7 acres.

Rice, which is also grown in the South-Eastern districts of the Trans-Caucasus, generally flourishes best in the low-lying country situated on either bank of the river Kura, where a proper system of irrigation is introduced. The rice crop of this year is reported to be fairly good, and the yield has, if anything, been above the average, the returns for some districts being nearly 200 pouds to the dessiatine, or 12,800 lb. to 2·7 acres.

The quantity of **liquorice root** collected during the 1905-06 season was less than in previous years in consequence of the Armeno-Tartar troubles in the district. This year's root crop, if the situation remains quiet, will be fairly abundant. Seeing that the natives are sadly in need of money, they will keenly set to work at collecting the root so soon as it is time to harvest same.

Sericulture has made very rapid progress in the Trans-Caucasus during the past decade. It is reported that the crop of cocoons this year reaches the high figures of over 8,000 tons. Very large quantities of cocoons are now being shipped to Marseilles, and besides what is being exported, the Russian markets are taking considerable quantities. The quality of this year's cocoons is said to be excellent.

The **tea** plantations on the Imperial Domains estates at Tchakva, near Batoum, are being cultivated with considerable success. The tea crop for the year 1906 on this property is estimated at about 200,000 lb. On the other hand, a Russian firm, who for 12 to 14 years have been experimenting in tea growing on lands situated near Batoum, and on which they have spent large sums of money, have apparently found the undertaking unprofitable, and have not picked the leaf this year. It is reported they are about to abandon the culture of tea in this district in view of the existing labour conditions, which serve as a formidable barrier to the continuation of the enterprise.

Different kinds of Turkish **tobacco** are grown in the Caucasus and several parts of the Trans-Caucasus, as, for instance, in Tchernomoria, the district of Soukhoum, and the province of Batoum (district of Artvin). In the valleys of the river Tchorokh and Mourgul, after maize, it forms almost the chief article of produce. The district of Soukhoum produces from 225 to 250 thousand pouds per annum, and the combined output of the plantations in other localities, the Consul thinks, exceeds one million pouds. Prices range from 12 roubles per poud (about 25*s*. per 36 lb.), for common quality tobacco, to 80 roubles per poud (nearly 8*l*. 10*s*.

per 36 lb.), for the high grades of tobacco. The tobacco from Tchernomoria and the district of Soukhoum, is disposed of in the Russian market, business being generally carried on from Moscow and St. Petersburg and other big towns in Russia through middlemen, who visit the localities and name their own low prices for tobacco. The planters are unable to take advantage of any rise that may take place in the market value of tobacco, and continue living from hand-to-mouth, often being compelled to ask for advances on future crops in order to enable them to procure fresh seed and to tide over the winter months. The conditions obtaining in the Artvin district and Mourgoul valley are somewhat different. The owners of plantations in these localities are members of the local farming population who are fairly well to do. All tobacco, whether of low or high grade, grown in the Trans-Caucasus is air-cured, and wood fires for drying the leaf are not resorted to. The tobacco is used exclusively for cigarette smoking, and none of it is exported to foreign countries.

The Acting British Vice-Consul at Novorossisk (Mr. Geelmuyden) reports that the yield of tobacco in the Northern Caucasus in 1905 was unprecedented. The returns for that period are estimated at the enormous figures of 1,200,000 pouds, or about 20,000 tons, the crop of an average year being only about half the above-mentioned quantity. The abundant tobacco harvest of last year caused prices to decline. In 1906 a smaller area of land was placed under the cultivation of tobacco, and the tobacco crop for the period under review will probably return about 400,000 pouds, or 6,000 tons. A slight advance in prices has recently taken place, and Kouban tobacco will probably shortly command from 6*s.* to 1*l.* per 36 lb., according to quality, the probable quotations for tobaccos grown in the Black Sea littoral being from 12*s.* to 2*l.* per 36 lb.

The following notes regarding **sunflower-seed products** are also extracted from Mr. Geelmuyden's report:—

The production of **sunflower-seed oil-cake** in the Northern Caucasus during the year 1906 is estimated to be from 50 to 60,000 tons. The price of oil-cake was about 6*l.* 13*s.* per ton in the spring, advancing to 7*l.* 10*s.* during the summer months and falling back to 6*l.* 13*s.* in the autumn. Millowners have disposed of the whole of their production up to January and February next. Denmark and South Sweden are the principal buyers of oil-cake at the present moment.

Carbonate of potash manufactured from the sunflower-seed stalk forms an important article of export from Novorossisk. It is much appreciated for its properties, and the great percentage of alkali it contains, viz., 90 to 92½ per cent. The quantity exported in 1905 was about 2,000 tons, at prices ruling from 2*l.* 2*s.* to 2*l.* 4*s.* per ton, f.o.b. Novorossisk. The abundance of sunflower-seed stalks in 1906 promises well for the industry, and a good production with a decline in prices is expected.

PRODUCTION OF MINERAL, METALLURGICAL AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES OF ITALY IN 1905.

The following statement showing the quantities and values in 1904 and 1905 of the production of Italy's principal mineral, metallurgical and allied industries, is based on official statistics reproduced in the Bulletin of the French Chamber of Commerce at Milan:—

—	1904.		1905.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		Lire.		Lire.
Total production of mines	—	85,205,000	—	88,943,000
Including—				
Sulphur rock ... Metric tons	3,539,000	41,582,000	3,761,000	42,828,000
Zinc ore ... ... ,,	148,000	18,206,000	148,000	19,277,000
Iron ... ... ,,	409,000	5,296,000	367,000	5,138,000
Lead ... ... ,,	43,000	5,591,000	39,000	5,497,000
Copper ... ... ,,	158,000	3,086,000	149,000	2,981,000
Coal, lignite, &c... ,,	362,000	2,975,000	413,000	3,435,000
Total production of mineral and metallurgical establishments ...	—	319,472,000	—	358,627,000
Including—				
Sulphur ... ... Metric tons	881,000	89,663,000	930,000	92,705,000
Steel ... ... ,,	177,000	40,495,000	245,000	55,594,000
Gas for lighting .. Cubic metres	244,833,000	42,943,000	256,798,000	43,403,000
Iron manufactured Metric tons	204,000	42,699,000	244,000	49,831,000
Pig-iron ... ... ,,	39,000	7,713,000	143,000	11,899,000
Copper and alloys ,,	12,000	22,483,000	16,000	32,816,000
Briquettes of coal ,,	903,000	25,152,000	842,000	21,904,000
Coke ... ... ,,	607,000	18,674,000	628,000	19,563,000
Tin plates ... ,,	16,000	7,844,000	19,000	9,010,000
Lead in pigs ... ,,	23,000	6,798,000	19,000	6,212,000
Total chemical products	—	72,648,000	—	81,540,000
Including—				
Superphosphates Quintals	4,590,000	27,392,000	5,123,000	28,922,000
Sulphate of copper ... ,,	172,000	9,164,000	262,000	13,839,000
Sulphuric acid ... ... ,,	2,778,000	9,468,000	3,021,000	10,022,000
Carbide of calcium ... ,,	273,000	5,873,000	282,000	6,183,000
Gunpowder ... ... ,,	17,000	3,020,000	17,000	3,207,000
Balistite ... ... ,,	8,000	2,695,000	8,000	3,047,000
Dynamite ... ... ,,	5,000	2,194,000	7,000	2,784,000
White lead ... ... ,,	51,000	2,226,000	50,000	2,224,000
Total production of quarries ...	—	43,856,000	—	45,005,000
Including—				
Marble ... ... Metric tons	390,000	17,305,000	390,000	17,279,000
Building stone ... ,,	3,001,000	3,505,000	2,961,000	3,549,000
Total production of kilns, furnaces, &c.	—	127,706,000	—	131,926,000
Including—				
Bricks, tiles, &c. Metric tons	4,771,000	41,629,000	4,840,000	42,635,000
Glass and crystal ware ,,	120,000	27,485.000	89,000	29,797,000
Majolica ware ... ,,	37,000	15,353,000	38,000	15,228,000
Cement ... ... ,,	315,000	9,871,000	333,000	10,388,000
Total production of turbaries ,,	16,000	230,000	18,000	237,000

TOBACCO CULTIVATION IN ITALY.

The following particulars of the tobacco industry of Italy are taken from a report by the French Consul-General at Naples (M. L. de Lalande):—

The cultivation of tobacco in Italy has been growing steadily for some years past, and has now assumed considerable dimensions, as will be seen from the annexed table:—

Province.	Area under Tobacco in 1905.
	Hectares.
Teramo	2·00
Avellino	111·69
Benevento	1,569·65
Caserta	207·52
Naples	20·23
Salerno	485·34
Lecce	1,270·40
Sicily	470·40
Sardinia	215·61
Other parts of Italy	1,959·07
Total	6,311·91

The total amount of tobacco used by the Italian Monopoly in 1905 was 20,188,421 kilogs., viz., 5,103,399 kilogs. of indigenous leaves, and 15,085,022 kilogs. of foreign leaves.

Although the area under tobacco is greater in Benevento than in any other province, the industry may be said to reach its highest point in Lecce*, where a large amount of land is devoted to the growth of tobacco for export; several Dutch houses have established factories and warehouses in this province. One-fourth of the tobacco grown throughout Italy is indigenous. Of foreign cigarette tobacco Yaka, a Macedonian variety, is most in demand. This variety has been adopted by the Lecce growers who are continually improving its production; it is already in keen demand on foreign as well as home markets. Among cigar tobaccos light Virginia, dark Virginia, and Kentucky are chiefly grown. The two last named varieties form nearly one-half of the total production of the country: as yet they compare unfavourably with American grown tobaccos of the same type, but in certain districts really excellent results have been obtained with these plants.

In order to foster tobacco cultivation the Italian Government maintains an institution of the first order at Scafati, near Castellammare, where scientific and industrial experiments are carried out, and officials of the monopoly receive a thorough technical training; private individuals are allowed to attend for instruction. Moreover, twenty-one experimental plantations, where demonstrations are also given, are distributed throughout the country. Researches for fresh areas suitable for successful tobacco cultivation are continually being carried out, and every encouragement is given to private enterprise in this direction.

* See p. 238 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 2nd August last.

PROGRESS OF COTTON CULTIVATION IN GERMAN COLONIES.

With reference to the article on pp. 15-16 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th July last, and to previous articles relating to cotton cultivation in German Colonies, H.M. Consul-General at Hamburg (Sir William Ward, C.V.O.) has forwarded a summary of a report by the German Colonial Economic Committee on the more recent measures adopted in German Colonies for this cultivation. A Special Commission, composed of representatives of the German cotton industry, of other persons interested in cotton growing in the German Colonies, and of cotton experts, was appointed by the Colonial Economic Committee under the designation of the "Cotton Commission." In accordance with the proposals of this Commission, the following resolution was passed by the Committee:—

To present a proposal to the Conference of German firms and others interested in cotton which is about to be convened by the German Government, to the effect that pecuniary aid for a certain term of years be accorded towards the cotton-growing undertakings of the Colonial Committee, either in the form of a subvention corresponding to a fixed percentage of the annual contributions made by the German manufacturers to the Association fund; or of a fixed rate payable per spindle and per loom.

Presuming that the requisite means will be forthcoming for carrying out the same, various measures for promoting cotton-growing in the Colonies of Togo, German East Africa, Cameroons, and South-West Africa, are proposed to be carried out.

Amongst these various measures are the extension of schools for teaching cotton-growing, the erection of ginneries, the careful selection and distribution of seed; the gradual introduction of cultivation by ploughs; the establishment of new "cotton districts"; the establishment of new plantations, and the extension of some of those already in existence; the diffusion of the knowledge of cotton-growing amongst the natives; the placing of the cotton districts under European superintendents and the visiting of the same by European experts; and finally, the construction of certain railway lines, more especially in German East Africa and South-West Africa, for facilitating communication between the interior and the sea coast.

CURRENCY IN MEXICO.

With reference to the notice on p. 363 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 22nd November respecting a Bill imposing a duty on silver coin exported from Mexico, it is understood that this Bill became law on the 19th November.

The exportation of silver money made in quantities of more than 10 pesos will, from the promulgation of this law, be subject to a duty of 10 per cent. upon the legal value of the money exported, unless there be exhibited to the Custom House a certificate from

Currency in Mexico.

the Exchange and Currency Commission of the receipt, for coinage, of gold in bars, not of native production, or in foreign moneys which shall fulfil the conditions laid down by Article 2, of the Decree of 22nd December, 1905 (noted on p. 232 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 1st February, 1906), equivalent in value to the sum exported, at the rate of 75 centigrams of pure gold per peso. Provided that a satisfactory guarantee be furnished, a term of not exceeding 30 days is granted to exporters after the date of exportation for the production of the certificate accrediting the desposit of gold.

In this connexion the following particulars, which have been taken from a despatch received from H.M. Legation in Mexico on the subject of Mexican currency, may be of interest:—

The value of the currency issued under the auspices of the Exchange and Currency Commission from the 1st May, 1905—when the monetary reform became effective—to the 25th October, 1906, was as follows:—

	Dollars.	
Gold currency	50,486,500	00
Silver „	8,139,000	00
Nickel and bronze currency ...	1,271,678	90
Total new currency ...	59,897,178	90

In addition to the amount of currency now in circulation the Exchange and Currency Commission has ordered the San Francisco mint to coin six million dollars of fifty cent pieces.

Quite distinct from this currency on the reformed basis, it is calculated that there are between thirty and forty millions of the old Mexican dollar still in circulation in the country.

Under the Currency Law of 25th March, 1905, this old silver dollar, the "peso fuerte," ·902 fine, containing 24·4391 grams of pure silver and 2·63492 grams of copper, was retained and was given unlimited legal tender, while at the same time its value was made independent of the gold price of silver, and a legal value of 75 centigrams of pure gold was ascribed to it. It was then worth forty-eight cents gold, but the price of silver has risen to such an extent that the same dollar is now worth over fifty-five cents gold, and has been exported in such quantities that there is a great scarcity of silver currency in all the mercantile, industrial, and mining centres of the Republic. Fortunately it was decided that the subsidiary silver coins were to contain a smaller quantity of silver than that which, proportionately speaking, they ought to have contained on the basis of their currency value with regard to the silver "peso." Up till now all the silver coins minted have been pieces of 50, 20 and 10 cents, of which the intrinsic value has not, it is believed, as yet exceeded the currency value, and which do not therefore leave the country.

PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

RUSSIA.

Proposed Temporary Duty-free Admission of Naphtha and Mazoot.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia reports that it is announced in the Russian press that the Minister of Commerce has introduced into the Council of Ministers a proposal for the duty-free admission of foreign naphtha and mazoot for a period not exceeding one year.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Proposed Reduction of Import Duties on Matches.

The Argentine "Boletin Oficial" for the 15th November contains the text of a Bill which has been presented to the Congress by the Minister of Finance, proposing to reduce the present import duties on matches as shown in the following state ment—

Tariff Classification.	Present Rates of Duty.	Proposed New Rates of Duty.
	Pesos. *Per kilog.*	Pesos. *Per kilog.*
Matches of wood (including the weight of the tin case)	0·40	0·10
Matches of wax, stearine, or other fatty substances, loose, (including the weight of the tin case) ...	1·60	1·20
Matches of wax, stearine, or other fatty substances, in boxes containing not more than six dozen (including the weight of the boxes and of the tin case) ...	0·80	0·50

Note.—Matches are subject to the additional duty of 2 per cent. which is leviable on articles subject to a tariff duty of 10 per cent. *ad valorem* or more. There is also an internal tax, leviable both on matches manufactured in, and on those imported into the Republic, at the rate of 1 centavo and ½ centavo on each box not containing more than six dozen matches of wax and of wood respectively.

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

BRITISH INDIA.

Importation of Cocaine.

The "Indian Trade Journal," issued by the Commercial Intelligence Department of India, for 29th November last, contains a notice wherein it is stated that the Governor-General in Council has seen fit to prohibit the importation by sea or by land into British India of

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

"cocaine" by means of the post, and further to restrict its importation by any other means "to cases in which it is imported by persons, or by their authorised agents, who have been specially permitted to import the drug by a Local Government or Adminstration."

DOMINION OF CANADA.

"Intermediate Tariff."

The Board of Trade have received through the Colonial Office a copy of the Debates of the Canadian House of Commons, containing the Speech of the Minister of Finance on presentation of the Budget on 29th November last.

The Finance Minister stated that, as regards the application of the Intermediate Tariff,* it was not the intention of the Government to propose to apply it, at the present time, to any country, but to adopt it as an instrument by which negotiations may be conducted, from time to time, with any country which is willing to give Canada favourable conditions.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Commerce Act: Marking on Match-boxes.

The Board of Trade have received, from the Commonwealth Government, a copy of an Order (No. 788), dated 9th November, 1906, giving a decision (under the Commerce Act of 1905) relating to the "marking on match-boxes" imported into the Commonwealth.

The present Order recites that—

(1) Imported matches are frequently packed in boxes bearing advertisements in English for other goods, together with such description as "Belgian vestas," "Italian vestas."

(2) In some cases, it is stated that the English advertisements appear alone.

(3) In the case of the latter, it will be necessary to mark the boxes if containing matches made in non-English speaking countries, with a description of the matches and the actual name of the country where they were made, *e.g.*, "Matches made in Italy."

(4) Whilst matches marked as stated in paragraph (1) above are "not to be interfered with under the Commerce Act," importers are informed that it is considered desirable, when new labels are being printed, to state the description as "Vestas (or matches) made in Italy," or other country as the case requires.

* For the provisions of the "Intermediate" Tariff, *see* the Supplement to this issue of the "Board of Trade Journal."

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—*continued.*

Decisions.

The Board of Trade have received, from Captain R. Muirhead Collins, C.M.G., the officer in charge of the offices of the Commonwealth of Australia in London, certain additional rulings that have been given under the Commonwealth Tariff Act of 1902, and the Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act of 1905, as follows :—

TARIFF ACT OF 1902.

The Commonwealth Government state, in reply to a question addressed to them as to whether empty bottles consigned "direct to the consumer" are admitted free of duty, that the only bottles so admitted are those coming under the special exemption Division VIII. (*h*) of the Tariff, which reads :

"Bottles empty of not more than 5 fluid drams capacity."

All other bottles are dealt with under items 93 to 96 of the Tariff.

COMMERCE (TRADE DESCRIPTIONS) ACT, 1905.

It is stated that the requirements of this Act, except as regards the goods coming under the regulations* are practically identical with those of the British Merchandise Marks Act, upon which the Commerce Act was founded.

As regards the requirements of the regulations, these, it is stated, are only certain ordinary particulars, *e.g.* :—

(*a*) A true description of the goods—"silk dress," "felt hat," "anchovy paste."

(*b*) The name of the country or place of origin of the goods.

(*c*) *If* the quantity or weight is set out, it will be necessary to state whether the weight is net or gross.

As regards sub-section (*a*), ordinary names which are at present in use will, it is stated, be accepted by the Commonwealth Department if they duly describe the goods.

The Commonwealth Government desire to point out that the idea that the component parts must be stated in the description is a misapprehension, as this is not required.

For example, a "lady's silk dress" may be made from many materials in as many different countries. All that is required by way of description under the Commerce Act is "silk dress made in ———"—the name of the place of origin being the place where the finished dress was made.

Customs Decisions.

A copy of a Supplement (No. 79) to the Customs Tariff Guide, dated 3rd November, 1906, has been received, giving Customs decisions relating to the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into the Australian Commonwealth.

* For which see the "Board of Trade Journal" for 29th November last.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—*continued.*

The following are the principal decisions given :—

Articles and how classed.	Rates of Import Duty.
Camp cots, of canvas and wood—	
As manufactures of wood	20 % *ad val.*
Combs, adjustable for attachment to barber's hair clippers—	
As cutlery, n.e.i.	15% „
Engine, portable, fixed horizontally to the underneath part of a boiler—	
As machinery, engines—portable and traction	Free.
Filter, Delphin—	
Filter	15 % *ad val.*
Bucket	20 % „
Gauges, steam pressure for vulcanizers—	
As metals, manufactures of, n.e.i.	20 % „
Gold, rolled in sheets for making jewellery, being base metal covered on both sides with sheet gold—	
As other articles	Free.
*India-rubber covers, vulcanized rubber (wired) for bicycles, &c.—	
As india-rubber manufactures	15 % *ad val.*
Iron—carburized corrugated sheet	Free (until otherwise proclaimed)
Linen, W. B., sensitized—	
As sensitized films, &c.	15 % *ad val.*
Press, steam, for finishing hosiery—	
As machinery (free)	Free.
Screws, sash, with attachments—	
As manufactures of metals	⅔rds free (as screws) ⅓rd 20 % *ad. val.*
Wool glass—	
As other articles	Free.

* Revised decision.

Drawbacks.

The "Commonwealth Gazette" for 10th November last contains a Notice, dated 6th November, 1906, providing for a drawback of duty on the undermentioned imported materials used in the manufacture of articles within the Commonwealth upon their exportation therefrom, under certain specified conditions :—

"Steel channels used in the manufacture of trucks for the conveyance of sugar cane."

Free Importation of Minor Articles.

The same issue of the "Gazette" contains By-laws issued on 6th November last, notifying that the following minor articles for use in the manufacture of goods within the Commonwealth may be imported free of duty :—

Spikes for the manufacture of bows and neckties.
Clips for the manufacture of letter files.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NEW ZEALAND.

Christchurch Exhibition, free importation of certain articles for sale or use in the Exhibition.

A Supplement to the "New Zealand Gazette" for 30th October last contains an Order-in-Council, dated 29th October, 1906, notifying, *inter alia*, that the Collector of Customs at Christchurch may, in accordance with the provisions of the "New Zealand International Exhibition Act of 1906," allow certain goods (*e.g.*, pictures, statuary, works of art, samples for free distribution,* circulars, posters, and stationery) for sale or use in the Exhibition to be cleared without payment of duty.

In the case of pictures, statuary, and works of art purchased at the Exhibition, the Collector is empowered to assess the value for duty at one-half the price paid by the purchaser.

GAMBIA.

Regulation affecting Articles imported for the use of the Officer administering the Government.

A copy of an Ordinance (No. 12 of 1906) has been received which was assented to by the Governor on 19th November last and which provides for the removal from the free list, from a date to be appointed by Proclamation, of the following articles imported into Gambia:—

"Articles of every description imported by the Officer administering the Government for his personal use."

SOUTH AFRICA.

Customs Decisions.

The "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" for 20th November last, contains a Customs Notice (No. 15) giving tariff decisions which have been agreed to by the various parties to the South African Customs Union:—

Articles and how classed.	Tariff No.	Rate of Import Duty.	
		General Rate.	Rebate upon goods, the manufacture of the United Kingdom and reciprocating British Colonies.
Harness and Saddlery—			
Bridles	52	25 % *ad val.*	3 % *ad val.*
Knee caps			
Harness backs	175	15 % „	3 % „
Horse hoods			
„ rugs, shaped			
Stable cloths			
Stirrup irons			
„ leathers			
Stearn's wine of cod liver oil	36*b*	20*s.* per Imp. gall.	Nil.

* See "Board of Trade Journal" of 1st November last, p. 202, and previous notices.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

RUSSIA.

Abolition of Certain Requirements as to Certificates of Origin.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. H. Cooke) reports, on the authority of the St. Petersburg "Commercial and Industrial Gazette," that the Russian Minister of Finance has abolished the regulation rendering obligatory the presentation of certificates of origin in respect of the following goods:—

Tariff No.	Articles.
146 (2)	Lead in rolls, sheets, wire or piping.
147	Zinc in pigs, scrap or powder; zinc slag and zinc dust; zinc in sheets, polished or not, also in rods.
27	Spirituous liquors (except whiskey, gin, cognac, &c.), when not imported in the original receptacles.

GERMANY.

Duty on Welsh Roofing Slates.

The new German Customs Tariff provided for a rate of duty of 1 mark 25 pfennige per 100 kilogs. on imported roofing slates, this rate being subsequently reduced to one of 65 pfennige per 100 kilogs. by the Commercial Treaty between Germany and Austria-Hungary. The regulations for the application of the reduced duty, however, provided that all blue or blue-grey slates of a thickness of 5 millimetres or below should be treated as "table slates" (*Tafelschiefer*) and consequently subjected to a duty of 1 mark per 100 kilogs. (under the German-Austrian Treaty) unless they had a hole punched in them at least two centimetres distant from the edge. As a result of representations by H.M. Government, the German Government have now consented to withdraw the regulation as to the punching of a hole, and to give directions to their Customs Authorities to classify under the head of "roofing slates," subject to the lower rate of 65 pfennige per 100 kilogs., all blue or blue-grey slates of a thickness of from 10 down to 3 millimetres. It is understood that this concession covers all the roofing slates exported from North Wales to Germany.

FRANCE.

Temporary Duty-free Admission of Bromine and Iodine for Certain Purposes.

The French "Journal Officiel" for the 16th December contains the text of a Law, dated 12th December, extending the régime of temporary duty-free admission to bromine destined for the manufacture of bromide of sodium and of bromide of ammonium, and also to iodine destined for the manufacture of dry iodide of sodium. The conditions governing the temporary free admission of these products are to be determined by decree.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Excise Duty on Playing Cards.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that a Decree has recently appeared in the Argentine Official Gazette, ordering that all playing cards shall in future pay excise duty, whatever may be their size, and even if they may be considered as toys for children. The excise duty on imported cards is 40 pesos (paper currency) per gross of packs.

CHINA.

Opening of certain places to International Trade.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of telegraphic information to the effect that by agreement between the Russian and Chinese Governments, Harbin, Kirin, Mandchourie, Tsitsihar, and Changchun (Kwangchengtzu) will be opened to international trade from 14th January next.

SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

CAPE COLONY.

Wharfage Dues at East London.

The "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" for 20th November last contains a Notice dated 17th November, 1906, cancelling Clause 153 of the Regulations and Tariffs of the East London Harbour Board, and substituting the following regulations, which will take effect as from 1st December, 1906.

153. Upon all wool landed and shipped, or transhipped from one vessel to another in the river, wharfage dues shall be payable and paid at and after the rate of 6*d.* for and upon every 100 lbs. weight thereof.

Upon all other goods, articles, matters or things shipped at the said harbour, or transhipped from one vessel to another in the river, wharfage dues shall be payable and paid at and after the rate of 10*s.* for every 100*l.* of the value thereof.

Upon all goods, articles, matters or things, except wool, landed at the said harbour, and consigned to Bloemfontein and stations north thereof, wharfage dues shall be payable and paid at and after the rate of 5*s.* for every 100*l.* of the value thereof.

Upon all other goods, articles, matters or things, landed at the said harbour, wharfage dues shall be payable and paid at and after the rate of 15*s.* for every 100*l.* of the value thereof.

The following goods shall be exempt from all wharfage dues demandable under the preceding regulations:—All Government stores, bullion and coin, passengers' baggage not liable to Customs dues, ships' stores outwards or coastwise, and all goods shipped for which wharfage dues have already been paid.

Shipping and Transport.

SPAIN.

Report on Harbour of Pasajes: Suggestion for Direct SS. Service with British Ports.

The Commercial Attaché to H.M. Embassy at Madrid (Mr. S. P. Cockerell) has forwarded a detailed report on the harbour of Pasajes, a port five miles to the east of San Sebastian. Pasajes is the only port of importance between Bilbao and the frontier, and has the advantage of being situated directly on the main line to Madrid. The harbour is almost landlocked, and is accessible to vessels by a deep and narrow channel slightly curved and about 600 yards in length. In the channel there are 8 metres of water at low spring tides, and in the harbour the depth varies from 5 to 8 metres.

In Mr. Cockerell's opinion it would be worth considering the establishment of a direct line of steamers between Pasajes and English ports for the carrying of fruit, wine, small parcels of mineral, and other goods which are now sent *viâ* Bordeaux.

ITALY.

Railway Rolling Stock.

With reference to the notice on p. 7 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th July last, particulars have been received from H.M. Embassy at Rome of the distribution of the orders for rolling stock which have been given out to foreign firms by the Administration of the Italian State Railways between the 20th July and the 8th November last. 68 steam locomotives were ordered, all from Germany. Of 85 steam motor luggage vans, 42 were ordered from Germany, 28 from Austria-Hungary, and 15 from Belgium. In orders for 4,500 trucks, varying from 15 to 20 tons in capacity, Belgian manufacturers participated to the extent of 2,050 trucks, Germany 550, and Austria-Hungary 650, while one American firm secured an order for 1,000 trucks. An order for special trucks of simple construction, for carrying long pieces of timber, rails, &c., was given to a Swedish firm at a price 13 per cent. below German and Italian quotations. Owing to the ferry boat service between Sweden and Denmark, the cars from Stockholm can be run on rails to Rome, and if necessary (by similar ferry service) to Palermo.

Railway Traffic at Genoa.

H.M. Consul-General at Genoa (Mr. W. Keene) reports, with reference to traffic conditions at that port, that the Harbour Authorities have decreed that coal working days be proportionate to the daily supply of coal trucks, taking 400 as a minimum, and reducing working days by one-eighth for each deficiency of 50 trucks. *Mr. Keene suggests that British shipowners should insert in the charter parties a clause dealing with and providing for any change of rules that may be made by the Genoa Harbour Authorities.*

Shipping and Transport.

A suspension of labour for one day took place on the 27th November at Genoa, Savona, and Spezia, as a protest against the railway disorganisation. On the same day the Director-General of Railways paid a visit of inspection to the port, and met a Commission of Genoa merchants. He gave particulars of the rolling-stock that had been ordered, all orders which could not be executed in Italy by the summer of 1907 being placed abroad.

Prizes for quick despatch were being offered to railway servants, and 16,000 of the largest trucks were being specially assigned to traffic between seaports and the interior. Negotiations had been opened with the Municipality of Genoa for a new line of rails connecting the eastern part of the port with S. Limbania station. The railway lines along the coast between Voltri on the west and Chiavari on the east would be doubled, and electric traction would shortly be adopted over the Giovi pass.

PERSIA.

Completion of Russian Road from Julfa to Tabriz.

H.M. Consul-General at Azerbaijan (Mr. A. C. Wratislaw, C.M.G.) reports that the Russian road from Julfa to Tabriz is now practically completed. The convenience it affords to travellers by carriage is very great, and as wheeled transport gradually replaces camel transport for goods arriving from Russia by this route, trade with Russia should, he thinks, benefit considerably. It is already found that a cart drawn by two oxen can bring six camel loads from Julfa to Tabriz for less than one camel and nearly as quickly. But this advantage is of little moment in comparison with the benefit which will result to Russian trade when the railway reaches Julfa, as it is expected to do during this winter. Russian manufactures will then reach the Persian frontier entirely by rail, and will be within 80 miles of the market at Tabriz. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,736.)

MEXICO.

New SS. Service between Liverpool and Vera Cruz.

H.M. Legation in Mexico reports that a contract was signed on 6th November between the Mexican Government and the local representative of the Harrison line of Liverpool, called the Charento Steamship Co., Ld., for the conveyance of mails between Liverpool and Vera Cruz, with power to touch at other Mexican Gulf ports, and ports in the West Indies and the Caribbean Sea. The Company undertakes to perform at least one voyage monthly between Liverpool and the ports of Vera Cruz and Tampico.

Shipping and Transport.

BRAZIL.

Harbour Improvements at Rio de Janeiro.

A despatch has been received from the Acting British Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro (Mr. D. R. O'Sullivan Beare) stating that the first completed section of the new quays* at that port was officially opened on the 8th November by the President of the Republic. The extent of quay actually built and declared open is 500 metres. The total projected length of quays is 5,000 metres, and this length when complete will enable vessels of the largest size to discharge cargo direct into the warehouses which will be built on the wharves.

ECUADOR.

Guayaquil Wharf and Custom House Charges.

H.M. Consul at Guayaquil (Mr. A. Cartwright) has forwarded a copy of new regulations issued respecting the working of the Guayaquil wharf, and the charges being levied. The following, he says, are the more important parts of such regulations, so far as they affect manifests of cargo and charges on ships and merchandise :—

Article 13.—Every vessel before commencing its discharge must present to the officer of the wharf a manifest of all cargo on board, specifying marks, numbers, quantity, consignee, and tonnage (weight or measurements on which freight is recovered) of each shipment. Till this is presented vessels will not be alowed to discharge.

Article 14.—Any inflammable goods on board must be declared.

Article 24.—Working hours are—6 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 6 p.m.

Article 41.—Tariff per ton weight or measurement, as per bill of lading, for the wharf "cuadrilla" (gang) to be 2.50 dols. (5*s*.) per ton.

Article 43.—Tariff for Custom house "cuadrilla" for all cargo cleared from the deposits, to be 3.50 dols. (7*s*.) per ton.

Article 44.—Wharfage on vessels to be 50 cents (1*s*.) per ton, on the cargo, weight or measurement, which they discharge at this port.

* See "Board of Trade Journal" of 10th December, 1903, p. 507.

MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

CANADA.

Bounties on Manufactured Iron and Steel.

On pp. 53-4 of the Supplement to the present issue of the "Board of Trade Journal" respecting the new tariff proposals of the Dominion of Canada will be found the text of the Resolution introduced into the Canadian Parliament relating to the payment of bounties * on iron and steel manufactured in the Dominion.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA—NORTHERN TERRITORY.

Mineral Industry.

The following figures of the exports of minerals from the Northern Territory of South Australia in the year 1905, as compared with the preceding year, are extracted from the report for that year of the Government Resident:—

—		1904.		1905.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			£		£
Gold	ozs.	14,361	40,764	13,027	39,702
„ concentrates	tons	25	290	2	266
Tin ore...	„	366	27,085	288	22,072
Copper ore	„	60	960	408	6,906
„ matte	„	286	24,150	158	8,474
Silver ore	„	167	1,387	97	1,115
Wolfram	„	28	2,724	63	3,379
Total		--	97,360	—	81,914

Gold.—The total quantity of gold produced during 1905 (exclusive of Macdonnell Ranges) was 14,361 ozs., valued at 44,201*l.*, as against an output of 15,146 ozs., valued at 43,723*l.* for 1904. (NOTE.—These figures for each year include gold held at the year's end for export by banks.)

The gold won at, and forwarded to Adelaide from the Artunga battery and cyanide works, Macdonnell Ranges, for 1905, was 1,114 ozs., valued at 4,146*l.*, as against 1,821 ozs., valued at 6,859*l.*, for 1904.

The total yield of gold for the whole of the Northern Territory for the past year was, therefore, 15,475 ozs., valued at 48,347*l.*, as against 16,987 ozs., valued at 50,582*l.* for 1904.

* For previous article relating to these bounties, see "Board of Trade Journal" of 21st January, 1904, pp. 112-13.

Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

The report states that during the year two diamond drills were sent by the South Australian Government to the Territory in pursuance of the policy of active prospecting of known gold reefs at depth, and for coal. Notwithstanding the many difficulties of transit and unavoidable delays in obtaining duplicate or additional parts of the equipment of the drills, every effort to keep the drills continuously working was made, and in the circumstances fair progress has resulted.

Several applications have been made in various parts of the country for leases of areas for dredging for gold, but so far no dredge has made an appearance in the Territory.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Discovery of Gypsum in Cape Colony.

According to the "South African Trade Journal" (Cape Town), a very large deposit of gypsum has been discovered by an experienced prospector on the coast at no great distance from Cape Town. It is proposed to form a syndicate for the purpose of exploiting this deposit.

Asbestos in Zululand.

The same Journal states that a considerable amount of work has been done with a view to working the asbestos deposits at the Sitilo Mountain in Zululand. The asbestos, of the short-fibred or Canadian variety, occurs in a belt of serpentine which runs over the mountain, the asbestos where opened forming a number of parallel, almost vertical veinlets, close to and parallel with a granite dyke in the serpentine.

As is the case with all asbestos deposits, the number and thickness of the veinlets vary from place to place, and the quality of the asbestos also varies; but the indication continues promising. The length of the fibre runs up to about 5 in., and it is pure white.

RUSSIA.

Syndicate of Iron Foundries in the Ural District.

According to a report by the French Chargé d'Affaires at St. Petersburg (M. Boutiron) reproduced in the "Moniteur Officiel du Commerce," the leading iron foundries in the Ural District have formed a syndicate. This has been brought about by the fact that the Ural iron industry has lately been suffering from severe depression, due partly to the competition of the foundries in the Donetz regions. The statutes of the "Krovlia" Syndicate, as it is entitled, were drawn up in July, but they will not come into force until 1st/14th January.

Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

It is not the intention of the Syndicate to limit the production of iron, but to centralise it, in order to obviate competition and regulate sales. Each of the affiliated foundries signs an agreement fixing its proportion of the total sales and determining in advance the minimum price to be charged for the iron produced. An interesting feature in the statutes is the provision of a premium for good work. If in any order it is stipulated that the iron required must be furnished by a particular foundry, the Syndicate will charge more than the current price for the goods in question, and the profit resulting from the increase will be assigned to the foundry named.

The "Krovlia" Syndicate has not been formed for any fixed term, each foundry reserving the right to withdraw from the combination when convenient. It is probable, remarks M. Boutiron, that many will avail themselves of this option when the state of the market is such as to cause sales at the minimum price fixed by the Syndicate to be readily effected.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—ALASKA.

Coal Fields of Controller Bay, Alaska.

According to the "Engineering and Mining Journal" (New York) the Controller Bay region, Alaska, is one of special interest because of its extensive coal deposits, the product of which is of excellent quality. Since 1903 the United States Geological Survey has been making investigations in this region. Thus far the coal of Controller Bay has failed to be marketed because of the lack of transportation facilities. The principal developments in this region during the last summer consisted of work upon tunnels driven for the purpose of cutting the coal at great depth and of surveys for railways and harbour improvements. These surveys were carried on by three separate interests, each of which contemplates the construction of a railway into the interior by way of Copper River. One of these lines is already begun. From what will be its terminus on Cordova Bay it is reaching out toward the coal fields by a branch from the Copper River crossing.

YARNS AND TEXTILES.

OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

Smyrna Carpet Industry.

The following particulars of the carpet industry of Smyrna are taken from a report by the French Consul-General at that port (M. Paul Blanc):—

The Smyrna carpet industry suffered in 1905 from the high price of wool, and the fact that the quality of this was slightly inferior to that obtainable in previous years. The prices of all grades of carpets were therefore increased, not commensurately, however, with the rise in price of the raw material. Machine-woven wool has almost entirely ousted the hand-woven article; a large weaving mill, managed on European lines, is working at Ouckak, the chief centre of the carpet industry, and another mill will shortly be opened in the same town. The exports of carpets from Smyrna in 1905 amounted to about 7,800 bales, valued approximately at 300,000*l.*, as compared with about 8,000 bales, valued at 320,000*l.* in the preceding year. The sales to Austria-Hungary and Germany showed a notable increase; the United States also bought more than in previous years, mainly the highest grade carpets, as, owing to the high duties, these alone can be imported with profit.

Fez Manufacture.

The "Levant Herald" states that fez-making on a large scale has been initiated at the Imperial factory of Hereke. It is said that the articles produced are of excellent quality, and, if prices can be fixed sufficiently low, they will compete seriously with imported wares.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Carpet Industry.

According to "Bradstreets" the United States Census return relating to the production of carpets, other than rag carpets, shows that this important branch of the wool manufacturing industry increased its output from 1900 to 1905 no less than 27 per cent. The product of the United States in 1900 was valued at 48,192,357 dols., while in 1905 it was returned at 61,586,433 dols. One hundred and thirty-nine establishments, employing capital to the amount of 56,781,074 dols., were reported in 1905, as compared with 133, with a capital of 44,449,299 dols., in 1900.

AGRICULTURE.

BRITISH BALUCHISTAN.

Sericulture.

The "Indian Trade Journal" publishes a report on the experiments in sericulture conducted in Mastung, Baluchistan, in 1906, from which it appears that owing to the success of previous experiments, the season's operations were considerably enlarged in scope. Bombyx Mori silk-worm eggs were obtained to the amount of 240 oz. A silk factory was constructed and a tray area provided of 19,700 sq. ft.; this area however subsequently proved insufficient and was enlarged to 44,600 sq. ft. Arrangements were made for leaf supply, the total quantity supplied at Mastung from the 1st May to 25th June, being 5,443 maunds, besides 960 maunds supplied to smaller factories established at Tiri, Pringabad and Nach. The total quantity of cocoons picked amounted to 6,253 lb., which after being dried in the sun weighed 2,080 lb. This is estimated to produce some 1,040 lb. of raw silk. It is thought that an important silk industry has now been permanently established in the Mastung valley.

A large number of mulberry cuttings (reported to be 450,000) have been put down, as well as mulberry seed. A well-equipped factory has been provided which only requires the addition of a few extra buildings to make it complete, and it has been conclusively demonstrated that silk-worm rearing on a large scale can be carried through to a successful issue. It is proposed to introduce silk weaving, which will greatly add to the interest and usefulness of the industry. The people take keen interest in the industry, and the private planting of mulberry expressly for sericultural purposes has already begun. It is confidently expected that in a very few years both the cultivation of mulberry and the rearing of the silk-worms will be seen in active progress in every village in the Mastung valley.

SIERRA LEONE.

Fibres.

With reference to the notice on p. 619 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 27th September last, the report on Sierra Leone, recently issued by the Colonial Office, states that of the minor indigenous products of that colony fibres are the most important. Samples of several species of fibre have been forwarded to Professor Dunstan of the Imperial Institute for examination and his report on them has been most encouraging. As regards the indigenous fibre known as Napunti, no process has yet been found which can be recommended to natives as a practical one for the extraction of the fibre. The other fibres are Corwe, Sansseviera, and Okra; the fibre from all these plants is easily extracted, and it is probable that the amount of fibre collected and sold by the natives might, with organisation,

Agriculture.

become of some importance. These fibres, however will never become a large article of export unless the plants are cultivated. Experiments in cultivation are being made. (*Colonial Reports, Annual,* 511.)

RUSSIA.

Siberian Butter Exports.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. H. Cooke) reports on the authority of the official "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" (St. Petersburg), that owing to the increasing demands of the English and German markets, and to the growing development of the Siberian production, the export of Siberian butter for the first ten months of the current year has exceeded the twelve months' export of any previous year. The following figures are given of the export from Cheliabinsk (the Siberian western frontier station) by rail:—

	Pouds.		Pouds.
1901... ...	1,593,747	1904	2,157,774
1902... ...	1,930,130	1905	1,937,989
1903... ...	2,239,605	1906 (10 months)	2,702,846
			or 97,605,174 lb.

NOTE.—1 poud = 36·112 lb.

FRENCH WEST AFRICA.

Notable Increase in Exports of Maize.

In connexion with the notice on pp. 570-1 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 20th December respecting the development of the maize export trade of Lagos, it may be of interest to note that the "Bulletin du Jardin Colonial" remarks on the notable increase in the export of maize from French West Africa. In 1904 only 200 tons of this cereal were exported, in 1905 this figure rose to 2,000 tons, while this year shows a still more rapid increase, 1,728 tons having been exported in the month of October alone. It is estimated that the total exports for the current year will amount to 6,000 tons.

This development, adds the "Bulletin," will be watched with interest in French commercial circles. Distillers and manufacturers of glucose and starch have been complaining bitterly of the dearth of raw material, supplies of maize from Argentina and Brazil having been scanty and dear. Poultry farmers, too, have suffered from the well nigh total failure of this year's maize crop. Fresh sources of supply are therefore urgently needed, and as maize imported from French colonies is exempt from the import duty of 3 francs per hundred kilogs. leviable on imports from other countries, a growth in the supplies from French West Africa should be of great service to home industries.

MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 20th December, 1906, was 149,259 (including 232 bales British West African), and the number imported during the fifty-one weeks ended the 20th December was 3,874,489 (including 5,490 bales British West Indian and 8,207 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 20th December, 1906, 8,928 bales, and for the fifty-one weeks, 355,089 bales.

For further details see p. 626.

BRITISH INDIA—BURMA.

Foreign Seaborne Trade in 1905-06.

The following particulars of the foreign seaborne trade of Burma (exclusive of Government transactions and specie) are taken from the report on the maritime trade of Burma for the year 1905-06:—

—	1904-05.	1905-06.
Imports	8,90,93,715	8,17,57,073
Exports (Indian merchandise)	16,24,81,207	15,50,18,049
Re-exports	3,47,702	3,90,970
Total	25,19,22,624	23,71,66,092

Rangoon accounts for 88·8 per cent. of the total foreign seaborne trade of Burma. An analysis of the figures relating to that port reveals decreases in the importation of all articles except those grouped under food and drink, and chemicals, drugs, &c., noticeable decreases having occurred in galvanised iron sheets, tinned plates and other sorts of iron, kerosene oil, cotton, silk and woollen piece-goods. In exports there were decreases in rice and kerosene oil, and increases in hides, teak, raw cotton, bran, and candles.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA—NORTHERN TERRITORY.

Pearlshell and Trepang Industry.

According to the report for 1905 of the Government Resident of the Northern Territory of South Australia, the year's take of pearlshell amounted to 115 tons, valued at 14,352*l.*, as against 133 tons, valued at 18,526*l.* for 1904. The number of boats licensed during the year was 49, the same number as in 1904, but many of the boats were laid up during the year owing to the unsatisfactory price of shell. No pearls were reported to the Customs authorities.

Of bêche-de-mer 62 tons, valued at 2,929*l.*, were exported in 1905, as against 44 tons, valued at 1,865*l.* in 1904.

Miscellaneous.

SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE.

Trade in 1905-6.

The following figures, showing the value of the import and export trade of the British Somaliland Protectorate, are taken from the report recently issued by the Colonial Office (*Annual*, 508):—

	1904-5.	1905-6.
	Rs.	Rs.
Imports	44,81,000	39,27,000
Exports	28,61,000	30,41,000

15 Rs. = £1.

JAMAICA.

Trade in 1905-6.

The following figures showing the value of the trade of Jamaica during the year ended 31st March last, as compared with the preceding year, are taken from the "Jamaica Gazette"—

Year ended 31st March.	Imports, excluding Specie.	Exports, excluding Specie.
	£	£
1904-5	1,679,042	1,351,741
1905-6	1,919,909	1,794,278

The percentage of the distribution of the trade was as follows:—

—	1904-5.		1905-6.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
United Kingdom	46·8	18·8	48·9	19·3
United States of America	42·8	53·4	39·0	57·4
Canada	5·9	8·8	8·1	6·1
Other Countries	4·5	19·0	4·0	17·2

FIJI.

Trade in 1905.

The following figures showing the value of the imports and exports of Fiji during 1904 and 1905, are taken from the report recently issued by the Colonial Office:—

Miscellaneous.

	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Exports ... ... Total	**589,990**	706,403
Including—		
Sugar	469,391	539,594
Copra	86,140	125,892
Green fruit	22,102	28,996
Imports ... ... Total	**439,995**	442,852

The bulk of the import trade is done with Sydney, and it is therefore somewhat difficult to obtain information as to the importation of British and foreign goods. As far as can be ascertained there has been a further increase during the year in the importation of German and Belgian goods, more particularly as regards cotton materials, glassware, hardware, iron, woodenware, and lager beer.

There has been a further increase in the exportation of sugar, due to increased cultivation. The increase of copra exported is partly due to the fact that a larger quantity than usual was awaiting shipment at the end of 1904, and appears as exported in 1905. (*Colonial Reports, Annual*, 509.)

RUSSIA.

Submarine Cable between St. Petersburg and Denmark.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. H. Cooke) reports that, according to the official "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" (St. Petersburg), the Minister of the Interior has confirmed the concession, granted to the Great Northern Telegraph Company, for the laying and exploitation of a new submarine telegraph cable between Russia and Denmark. The Company has to construct at its own expense a submarine cable between St. Petersburg and Denmark within the shortest possible period, in no case later than 1st September, 1907.

GERMANY.

Chemical Industry.

H.M. Consul-General at Hamburg (Sir William Ward, C.V.O.), has forwarded a summary of a report recently published by the Association of the Chemical Industry in Germany. In concluding its remarks on the general results of the chief branches of the chemical industry in Germany during the year 1905, the Association observes "that a number of new and important technical problems, some of which have been already solved, or the solution of others of which is being actively worked at, are doubtless destined to become further sources of wealth for the German nation. Similarly as chemical industry in former times put an end

Miscellaneous.

GERMANY—*continued.*

to the natural cultivation of madder—and is now about to replace the production of natural indigo—so the same will surely before long succeed in substituting wood-fibre for the product of the silk-worm. The intimate connexion of chemical industry with scientific research will, moreover, in view of the growing demand and the comparatively restricted supply of indiarubber, doubtless lead to the discovery of a substance which will possess all the qualities of indiarubber; whilst, in the place of natural nitrate, the latent inexhaustible supplies of nitrogen contained in the atmosphere, will before long be utilised for supplying the wants of agriculture, as well as of many other branches of industry now using nitrate to a more or less considerable extent. A vast perspective, lastly, opens before us, when we consider the possible results arising from the recent researches made regarding the synthesis of albuminous substances."

Sea Fishing Industry.

The "Moniteur Officiel du Commerce" (Paris) states that since last March the German Government has been collecting more detailed statistics than heretofore respecting the sea-fishing industry of that country. From these statistics it appears that the value of the German sea-fishery, from March to September of the present year, amounted to about 677,000*l.*, the North Sea fishery accounting for about 584,500*l.* of this sum. The total annual value of the catch of all countries fishing in the North Sea was a few years ago estimated at 8,200,000*l.* distributed as follows:—

Country.	Value.
	£.
England	4,220,000
Scotland...	1,430,000
Netherlands ... ... —	950,000
France...	624,800
Germany	480,000
Norway	190,000
Belgium	180,000
Denmark	80,000

It will be seen that the share of Germany now shows a considerable increase; but it still furnishes only a small proportion of the fish consumed in the country. The increasing dearness of meat is stimulating the demand for fish, and efforts are being made to induce the Government to increase the scale of bounties at present granted to the fishing industry. It is felt that private enterprise could do even more to increase the supply from home sources; and a German newspaper recently appealed to native capitalists to provide funds for the extension of the sea fishing industry, adding that it would prove a remunerative investment.

Miscellaneous.

PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.

Commercial Travellers' Licences in Lourenço Marques.

The Board of Trade have received a communication from H.M. Consul-General at Lourenço Marques (Major J. G. Baldwin), stating that the tax for a commercial traveller in Lourenço Marques is 180 milreis, which, at the Government rate of 4·500 milreis to the £ sterling, is equivalent to 40*l.* In addition to this, if a traveller is domiciled in Lourenço Marques, a municipal tax has to be paid of 25 per cent. of the 180 milreis, viz., 10*l.* per annum. There has also to be paid a stamp fee of 5 per cent., viz., 2*l.* per annum, and the sum of one milreis (4*s.* 6*d.*), which is a recognised perquisite of the clerk whose duty it is to make out the licence.

In the event of a licence being required for a shorter period, the above taxes are reduced. For instance, a licence for the minimum period, which is three months, would cost 45 milreis, viz., 10*l.*, plus 2*l.* 10*s.* municipal tax, plus 10*s.* stamp fee, plus one milreis (4*s.* 6*d.*) for clerical assistance. This latter sum remains the same whatever the period for which the licence is required.

Application for the licence referred to above must be made to the Treasury Department.

ITALY.

Appointment of Commercial Experts.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" states that the Italian Government has recently appointed four commercial experts who will be attached respectively to the Tripoli, Bucarest, Berlin and Central American Consulates.

Proposed Establishment of a Museum of Building Materials.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" states that a committee appointed by the Ministry of Public Works to report on the control of building materials used in such works has presented its report. A more rigorous inspection of building materials is recommended; it is also proposed to establish a permanent museum for the storage and display of samples of these materials. The "Bollettino" adds that the Minister of Public Works has expressed his approval of this suggestion.

MUSCAT.

Imports of Arms and Ammunition.

A despatch has been received from H.M. Consul at Muscat, (Major W. G. Grey), pointing out that the figures given on p. 6 of his 1905-06 report, (Foreign Office Annual Series, 3,684) require amendment. According to the statement of the Muscat Customs Superintendent, the figures, Rs. 40,990, shown as the value of arms

Miscellaneous.

and ammunition imported into Muscat from France in 1905-06, are intended to specify the value of articles actually made in France and exported from Marseilles; and all other consignments have been erroneously included under the head of the United Kingdom in the absence of information as to the country of manufacture. The former Customs Superintendent calculated the export from France and the United Kingdom according to the ports of embarkation simply, which method gives little idea as to the countries of manufacture and consequently does not appear to be a very satisfactory arrangement. As regards the year under reference, however, the Consul has caused a fresh statement to be made out on this basis, of which the figures are as follows, the 1904-05 figures being re-printed for purpose of comparison:—

	Year ended 31st March	
	1905.	1906.
	Rupees.	Rupees.
France	674,400	429,752
United Kingdom...	990,500	644,628

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Proposed Sugar Combine in Louisiana.

The British Commercial Agent in New York (Mr. E. Seymour Bell) reports that the principal sugar manufacturers and owners of plantations in the State of Louisiana are preparing to merge their interests with a view to erecting at New Orleans a large refinery to handle the raw material. It is expected that at least 50 per cent. of the sugar acreage of Louisiana will be included in the project. The proposed capital of the undertaking is 5,600,000*l*.

GUATEMALA.

New Vegetable Fat: Sample on View.

A communication has been received from the Acting British Commercial Agent in Guatemala (Mr. C. J. Winter), giving particulars of a vegetable fat which is extracted from the seed of "Myristica sebifera." It is stated that this product, called "Myristina," has the odour and taste of cocoa-butter, that it melts at 37 deg. C., and is soluble in alcohol, ether, chloroform and essence of turpentine; also that it is adapted for use in perfumes, pharmacy, soap-making, candle-making, and as a food stuff. It is claimed that "Myristina" can readily be rendered transparent, can be saponified with alkali, making a soap that lathers well, and that it never becomes rancid.

Miscellaneous.

A sample of the fat has been received from Mr. Winter, and may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C. The holder of the concession for the extraction of the product in Guatemala is desirous of knowing its market value in England.

BRAZIL.

Paper Currency.

Referring to the notice on pp. 325-6 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 15th November last as to the amount of paper currency in circulation throughout Brazil, the Acting British Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro (Mr. D. R. O'Sullivan Beare) reports that notes to the value of 2,000 contos of reis were burnt on the 13th November, thus reducing the total amount of paper currency in circulation throughout Brazil to 664,998,315·500 milreis.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the **Number** of **Bales** of **Cotton Imported** and **Exported** at the **Various Ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the Week and 51 Weeks ended 20th December, 1906 :—

—	Week ended 20th Dec., 1906.	51 Weeks ended 20th Dec., 1906.	Week ended 20th Dec., 1906.	51 Weeks ended 20th Dec., 1906.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	118,029	2,947,285	4,909	204,474‡
Brazilian	—	222,569	151	18,787
East Indian	997	130,597	—	43,110
Egyptian	28,113	472,621	3,771	80,786
Miscellaneous	2,120*	101,417†	97	7,932
Total	149,259	3,874,489	8,928	355,089

* Including 232 bales British West African.

† Including 5,490 bales British West Indian, and 8,207 bales of British West African.

‡ Corrected figures.

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of November, 1906, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance, of 1*s.* 2*d.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1905, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 8*d.* for the first, and 4*s.* 2*d.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1901–1905, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs revenue, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette"* is published by the Board of Trade on the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the December issue:—State of the Labour Market in November; Relief of the Unemployed; Standard Time Rates of Wages; Trade Unions in 1905; Berne Labour Convention and Anthrax Investigation Board.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

East India (Trade). Review of the Trade of India in 1905-6. [*Cd.* 3,272.] *Price* 7*d.*

This is the annual report on the foreign trade of British India for the year ended 31st March, 1906, which was issued a short time ago as an Indian Government publication (see p. 36 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 4th October). It has now been presented to Parliament as a command paper, and may be obtained like other Government publications.

Post Office. Agreement between the Post Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and the Post Office of Servia for the Exchange of Money Orders. [*Cd.* 3,265.] *Price* 2½*d.*

* It can be purchased through any newsagent, price 1*d.*

Government Publications.

Passengers to and from places out of Europe. Cd. 2,839—*X. Price* ½*d.*

This is the November number of the return showing the numbers and nationalities of the passengers that left, or arrived in, the United Kingdom for or from places out of Europe; and the net balance of such passengers outward or inward, during the month and eleven months ending 30th November, 1906, compared with the corresponding periods of the previous year.

During the eleven months ended the 30th November, 1906, the total number (provisional) of passengers that *left* the United Kingdom for places out of Europe was 534,282, as compared with 440,158 during the corresponding period of 1905, and the total number (provisional) that *arrived* in the United Kingdom from places out of Europe during the eleven months ended the 30th November, 1906, was 206,865, as compared with 187,409, during the corresponding period of 1905. The balance of the total movement shows that the number of passengers that *left* the United Kingdom for places out of Europe exceeded the number of passengers that *arrived* in the United Kingdom from places out of Europe by 327,417 during the eleven months ended the 30th November, 1906, as compared with a similar excess of 252,749 during the corresponding period of 1905.

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORTS.

Miscellaneous.

No.	Place.	Price.
32	Northern Nigeria. First report on the results of the Mineral Survey, 1904–5	1½*d.*
33	Southern Nigeria. Reports on the Mineral Survey for 1903–4 and 1904–5	2½*d.*
34	Montserrat. Agricultural Industries	2½*d.*
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis. Report on Sugar Industry, 1881–1905	3*d.*
36	West Indies. Report on the working of the Imperial Department of Agriculture	1*s.* 4*d.*
37	Ceylon. Report on the results of the Mineral Survey in 1904-5	2½*d.*
38	St. Helena. Reprint of a report written in 1884 upon the present position and prospects of the Agricultural Resources of the Island of St. Helena	½*d*

Government Publications.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1906, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price
	EUROPE—	
	Austria-Hungary:	
3696	Austria-Hungary ...1905	1½*d.*
3650	Fiume ... ... „	1*d.*
3550	Trieste ... ... „	2*d.*
	Belgium:	
3532	Antwerp, Shipping and Navigation 1905	7*d.*
3720	Belgium—1905 and first half of 1906	3½*d.*
650	*Arms Industry of Liége* ...	7½*d.*
	Bulgaria:	
3630	Bulgaria 1905	1½*d.*
	Denmark:	
3525	Denmark (Supplementary) 1904	1*d.*
3624	Denmark 1905	4½*d.*
3570	Iceland... ... 1903-5	1½*d.*
	France and Colonies:	
3712	Algeria 1905	3*d.*
3616	Bordeaux ... ... „	3*d.*
3639	Brest ... ... „	2½*d.*
3567	Calais ... ... „	2½*d.*
3599	Cherbourg ... ... „	1½*d.*
3626	Cochin-China ... ... „	1½*d.*
3614	Corsica ... ... „	1*d.*
3629	Dunkirk ... ... „	2*d.*
3732	France—1905 and first half of 1906	1½*d.*
3676	French Budget ...1906	2½*d.*
3543	French West Africa 1904–5	5*d.*
3625	Grenoble 1905	1*d.*
3586	Havre ... ... „	3½*d.*
3528	Indo-China ... 1903-4	7*d.*
3707	„ 1905	2*d.*
3625	Lyons and St. Etienne Silk Industry ...1905	1*d.*
3671	Madagascar ... ... „	1½*d.*
3534	Marseilles ... ... „	1*d.*
3651	Martinique ... . „	1*d.*
3548	New Caledonia ... „	1*d.*
3654	Nice ... ... „	1*d.*
3611	Pondicherry ... ... „	1*d.*
3554	Réunion ... ... „	½*d.*
3727	St. Pierre & Miquelon „	1*d.*
3645	Society Islands ... „	1*d.*
644	*French Octroi System* ...	1½*d.*
651	*French Mercantile Marine Laws*	*1d.*
	German Empire:	
3637	Baden 1905	1*d.*
3526	Bavaria... ... 1904 and part of 1905	1*d.*
3723	„ ... ... 1905 and part of 1906	2*d.*
3694	Dantzig 1905	2*d.*
3523	German Trade with India...	1*d.*
3544	Germany 1905	4½*d.*
3656	„ ... ... „	4½*d.*
3627	Hamburg ... ... „	4½*d.*
3602	Pomerania ... ... „	2½*d.*
3542	Saxony—Finances... 1906-7	1½*d.*
645	*Agriculture in Germany* ...	*1½d.*
652	*Agriculture in the Rhenish Province*	*3d.*
653	*German Ceramic Industries and German Trade in Ceramic Products* ...	*1d.*
	Greece:	
3559	Corfu 1905	1*d.*
3594	Cephalonia and Zante „	1½*d.*
3592	Cyclades ... ... „	1*d.*
3556	Morea, Aetolia, and Acarnania ... ... „	1½*d.*
3621	Piræus ... ... „	1½*d.*
3617	Thessaly ... ... „	1½*d.*
	Italy:	
3552	Genoa 1905	8½*d.*
3541	Italy 1904	6*d.*
3606	„ —Finances ...1905	1½*d.*
3672	Lecce ... ... „	2*d.*
3703	Leghorn ... ... „	1*d.*
3647	Lombardy ... ... „	2*d.*
3565	Rome ... ... „	1½*d*
3595	Sicily ... ... „	3*d*
3530	South Italy ... ... „	1½*d.*
3679	„ (Supplementary)„	4*d.*
3718	Venice 1905–6	2½*d.*
648	*Agriculture of Tuscany* ...	*1d.*
	Netherlands and Colonies:	
3535	Amsterdam 1905	2½*d.*
3603	Curaçoa ... ... „	2*d.*
3580	Java ... ... „	1*d.*

Government Publications.

No.	Place.	Price
3527	Netherlands Finances 1904-5 to 1905-6	1½*d.*
3524	Netherlands Indies— Finances ... 1905-6	1*d.*
3596	Rotterdam 1905	1½*d.*
3670	Surinam ... ... „	1*d.*
	Norway:	
3555	Norway... 1905	2*d.*
	Portugal and Colonies:	
3704	Angola 1905	1½*d.*
3593	Azores ... ... „	½*d.*
3568	Beira ... ... „	1*d.*
3721	Chinde ... ... „	3*d.*
3666	Lourenço Marques ... „	3*d.*
3638	Madeira ... ... „	1½*d.*
3537	Oporto ... ... „	1*d.*
3634	Quilimane ... ... „	½*d.*
	Roumania:	
3618	Roumania 1905	3*d.*
3658	Constantza ... ... „	1½*d.*
	Russia:	
3566	Batoum 1905	1½*d.*
3575	Finland... ... ... „	1*d.*
3574	Moscow .. .. „	2*d.*
3653	Odessa ... ... „	4½*d.*
3538	Poland and Lithuania „	2½*d.*
3688	Riga ... ... „	2*d.*
3610	Rostov-on-Don ... „	2½*d.*
3584	St. Petersburg ... ... „	3*d.*
3680	Taganrog ... ... „	1*d.*
	Servia:	
3529	Servia 1904	1½*d.*
	Spain:	
3631	Barcelona 1905	2½*d.*
3590	Bilbao ... ... „	2*d.*
3607	Cadiz ... ... „	2*d.*
3601	Canary Islands ... „	2*d.*
3612	Galicia, Asturias & Leon „	2*d.*
3644	Malaga... ... ... „	2½*d.*
	Sweden:	
3560	Stockholm 1905	3*d.*
3662	Gothenburg ... ... „	2½*d.*
	Switzerland:	
3572	Switzerland 1905	1*d.*
3734	„ ... ... „	2½*d.*
	Turkey:	
3545	Adrianople 1905	½*d.*
3582	Aleppo ... ... „	1½*d.*
3663	Baghdad ... ... „	1*d.*
3609	Basra ... ... „	1*d.*
3569	Beirut & Coast of Syria „	1*d.*
3533	Constantinople ...1905	2*d.*
3705	Crete ... ... „	½*d.*
3699	Damascus ... ... „	1*d.*
3652	Erzeroum ... ... „	1*d.*
3561	Palestine ... ... „	1*d.*
3655	Salonica ... ... „	1½*d.*
3722	Smyrna... ... ... „	2*d.*
3577	Trebizond ... ... „	1*d.*
	AFRICA—	
3562	Alexandria 1905	1*d.*
3697	Dar-al-Baida ... ... „	2*d.*
3547	Morocco ... 1903–4	1*d.*
3730	„ 1905	1*d.*
3716	Pemba ... ... „	1*d.*
3573	Port Said and Suez ... „	1½*d.*
3597	Tangier... ... ... „	3*d.*
3677	Zanzibar ... ... „	1½*d.*
	AMERICA, NORTH—	
	Mexico:	
3640	Mexico 1905	2*d.*
3783	„ ... 1905–6	½*d.*
3726	Mexico City... ... 1905	2½*d.*
3531	Mexican Budget ... 1905-6	½*d.*
3693	„ „ ...1906-7	2*d.*
	United States of America:	
3598	Boston 1905	2½*d.*
3564	California, Nevada, Utah and Arizona 1905	2½*d.*
3622	Chicago... ... ... „	5½*d.*
3643	Hawaii... ... 1904–5	1*d.*
3551	Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and Kentucky 1905	2½*d.*
3659	New Orleans ... ... „	4½*d.*
3665	New York ... ... „	2½*d.*
3587	Oregon, Washington and Idaho ... ... „	3*d.*
3583	Philadelphia ... ... „	2½*d.*
3731	Philippine Islands ... „	2*d.*
3636	Porto Rico ... ... „	1½*d.*
3681	Savannah ... ... „	2*d.*
3585	Texas ... ... „	2*d.*
3539	United States, trade ... „	2½*d.*
3536	„ „ finances, 1904-5	1½*d.*
643	*Coal Industry in 1904* ...	*3d.*
647	*Turpentine Industry* ...	*1½d.*
655	*Immigration into the U.S.*	*2d.*
	AMERICA, CENTRAL—	
	Costa Rica:	
3615	Costa Rica 1905	1*d.*
	Guatemala:	
3686	Guatemala 1905	1½*d.*
3620	Quezaltenango ... „	½*d.*

Government Publications.

No.	Place.	Price
	Honduras:	
3546	Honduras ... 1904–5	½*d.*
3591	Omoa and Puerto Cortés 1905	½*d*
	AMERICA, SOUTH—	
	Argentina:	
3557	Buenos Ayres 1905	2*d.*
3689	Argentina—Finances 1905-6	1*d.*
3605	Rosario 1905	1*d.*
	Bolivia:	
3600	Bolivia 1904-5	2*d.*
	Brazil:	
3540	Brazil 1904	1*d.*
3713	„ 1905	1½*d.*
3669	Pernambuco ... ... „	1*d.*
3608	Rio Grande do Sul ... „	½*d.*
3737	Santa Catharina ...1905	1*d.*
3521	Santos 1902-4	2*d.*
	Chile:	
3698	Chile (with Supplementary Report for 1904) 1905	4*d.*
3549	Coquimbo ... ... „	½*d*
	Colombia:	
3678	Barranquilla 1905	1*d.*
3553	Santa Marta ... ... „	½*d.*
	Ecuador:	
3685	Ecuador ... 1899-1905	2*d.*
	Paraguay:	
3649	Paraguay 1905	½*d.*
	Peru:	
3604	Iquitos 1905	½*d.*
3635	Peru ... ... „	2½*d.*
	Uruguay.	
3735	Uruguay 1905	1*d.*
	Venezuela:	
3657	Caracas... 1905	2*d.*
3558	Ciudad Bolivar ... „	½*d.*
	WEST INDIES—	
3522	Cuba (Supplementary) 1904	2*d.*
3738	„ 1905	1*d.*
3673	Hayti ... ... „	1*d.*
	ASIA—	
	China:	
3613	Canton 1905	1½*d.*
3708	Changsha ... ... „	1*d.*
3729	Chefoo 1903–5	1*d.*
3725	China, foreign trade, 1904-5	9*d.*
3642	Chinkiang 1905	1*d.*
3710	Foochow ... ... „	1½*d.*
3571	Ichang 1905	1*d.*
3667	Hangchow ... ... „	1*d.*
3578	Hankow ... ... „	1½*d.*
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3687	Kiungchow ... ... „	1*d.*
3711	Mengtzu ... ... „	1*d.*
3619	Nanking ... 1903–5	1*d.*
3641	Newchwang 1905	1*d.*
3690	Ningpo ... ... „	½*d.*
3692	Pakhoi ... ... „	1*d.*
3628	Shanghai ... 1901–4	1½*d.*
3674	„ 1905	1*d.*
3701	Shasi ... ... „	1*d.*
3576	Swatow... ... ... „	1*d.*
3632	Teng Yueh ... ... „	2½*d.*
3661	Tientsin ... 1904-5	1½*d.*
3691	Wenchow 1905	½*d.*
3588	Wuchow ... 1904-5	1½*d.*
3648	Wuhu ... ... „	½*d.*
	Corea:	
3660	Corea 1905	2½*d.*
654	*Cotton Culture in Corea* ...	*1d.*
	Japan:	
3589	Hakodate 1905	1*d.*
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3646	North Formosa ... „	1½*d.*
3668	Shimonoseki ... 1904–5	1*d.*
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3709	Yokohama ... ... „	2½*d.*
	Muscat:	
3684	Muscat 1905–6	1*d.*
	Persia:	
3579	Arabistan 1905	1*d.*
3736	Azerbaijan ... 1905–6	1*d.*
3664	Bahrain Islands ...1905	1*d.*
3702	Bunder Abbas & Lingah „	2*d.*
3682	Kerman ... 1905–6	½*d.*
3683	Kermanshah ... „	1½*d.*
3724	Khorassan ... „	1½*d.*
3728	Sistan and Kain „	1½*d.*
646	*Persian Customs Regulations*	5½*d.*
	Borneo:	
3715	British North Borneo 1905	1*d.*
	Siam:	
3717	Bangkok 1905	1½*d.*
3695	Chiengmai ... ... „	1½*d.*
	PACIFIC ISLANDS—	
3633	Friendly Islands ... 1905	½*d.*
3623	Samoa ... ... „	1*d.*

Government Publications.

Treaty Series.

The following number of the Treaty Series issued since the 1st January, 1906, may also be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

No.	———	Price.
	EUROPE— Denmark:	
5	Convention between the United Kingdom and Denmark providing for the settlement by arbitration of certain classes of questions which may arise	⅛*d.*
	France:	
1	Agreement between the United Kingdom and France additional to the Money Order Convention of December 8, 1882	½*d.*
2	Convention between the United Kingdom and France respecting telegraphic communication between Mauritius and Réunion	½*d.*
14	Convention between the United Kingdom and France respecting the Delimitation of the Frontier between the British and French Possessions to the East of the Niger...	1*s.* 4*d.*
	Roumania:	
3	Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the United Kingdom and Roumania	2*d.*
	Spain:	
6	Treaty between the United Kingdom and Spain for the marriage of His Majesty the King of Spain with Her Royal Highness Princess Victoria Eugénie Julia Ena, signed at London, 7th May, 1906	½*d.*
	ASIA— China:	
9	Convention between the United Kingdom and China respecting Tibet, signed at Peking, 27th April, 1906. (To which is annexed the Convention between the United Kingdom and Tibet, signed at Lhasa, 7th September, 1904.)	½*d.*
	Japan.	
13	Treaty between the United Kingdom and Japan respecting Commercial relations between Canada and Japan ...	½*d.*
	AFRICA— Congo Free State:	
4	Agreement between the United Kingdom and the Independent State of the Congo modifying the agreement signed at Brussels, 12th May, 1894	½*d.*
	AMERICA— Nicaragua:	
7	Treaty between the United Kingdom and Nicaragua for the Mutual Extradition of Fugitive Criminals, signed at Managua, 19th April, 1905	1½*d.*
11	Treaty between the United Kingdom and Nicaragua with regard to the Mosquito Territory	½*d.*
12	Treaty of Friendship, Commerce, and Navigation between the United Kingdom and Nicaragua...	1½*d.*

Government Publications.

Treaty Series—*continued.*

No.	———	Price.
	Chile:	
10	Agreement between the United Kingdom and Chile for the Exchange of Money Orders. Signed at London, 30th July, 1906	1½*d.*
	Colombia:	
8	Accession of Colombia to the Geneva Convention	½*d.*
	United States of America:	
15	Convention between the United Kingdom and the United States of America respecting the boundary between the Dominion of Canada and Alaska	½*d.*

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORTS.

The following Annual Reports relating to H.M. Colonial Possessions issued since 1st January, 1906, may be purchased from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

Annual.

No.	Place.	Price.
481	Ceylon	3½*d.*
482	St. Lucia	2*d.*
483	Ashanti	2½*d.*
484	Bermuda	2*d.*
485	Hong Kong	2*d.*
486	St. Helena	2½*d.*
487	Weihaiwei	1½*d.*
488	Gold Coast	3½*d.*
489	Seychelles	3*d.*
490	Falkland Islands	2*d.*
491	Gambia	2½*d.*
492	Jamaica	2*d.*
493	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast...	1½*d.*
494	Ceylon	2½*d.*
495	Turks and Caicos Islands	1*d.*
496	Bahamas	2½*d.*
497	Barbados	2*d.*
—	Cyprus	3*d.*
498	Malta	3*d.*
499	British Central Africa Protectorate	3*d.*
500	Colonial Survey Committee	2*s.* 7*d.*
501	Grenada	2½*d.*
502	Straits Settlements	3*d.*
503	Gibraltar	2*d.*
504	Trinidad and Tobago	2*d.*
505	St. Lucia	2*d.*
506	Mauritius	4½*d.*
507	Southern Nigeria (Lagos)	10*d.*
508	Somaliland Protectorate	1½*d.*
509	Fiji	2*d.*
510	St. Vincent	2*d.*
511	Sierra Leone	3*d.*

NOTE.—For list of Colonial Reports of the Miscellaneous Series, see p. 628.

THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender. Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The Governments of India, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, and Queensland, also the Governments of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, have established, in proximity to the Commercial Intelligence Branch, at 73, Basinghall Street, special offices for dealing with trade matters (see next page).

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

India.—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

Canada.—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government City Trade Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

Cape of Good Hope.—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, under the direction of the Agent-General.

The Commercial Agent in charge of these offices deals with, and supplies free, information on trade subjects connected with the Colony, such as commercial products, industries, trade, tariff regulations, commercial statistics, railway rates, prospects for emigration, &c., &c.

Queensland.—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A collection of articles representative of the pastoral, agricultural, and mining industries of Queensland are on view, and information regarding these industries can be obtained at the Office, as above.

Transvaal and Orange River Colony.—A Trade Enquiry Office has been opened at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., by the Governments of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, on the lines of the agency established at the same address by the Government of Cape Colony, but under the general direction of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Superintendent in charge of the Office deals with, and supplies free, information in regard to the products and resources of the two Colonies, the opportunities they present to the settler, their railway facilities, the regulations of all kinds in force in them affecting trade, &c., &c.

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

The Imperial Institute at South Kensington was transferred by Act of Parliament to the control of the Board of Trade on the 1st January, 1903. The work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Imperial Institute is chiefly occupied with the systematic investigation and illustration of the principal resources of India and the Colonies. It includes :—

1. The Galleries, containing collections of economic products, &c., illustrative of the natural and commercial resources of British Possessions. These are open free to the public daily (except on Sundays) from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., in Summer, and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Winter. Special arrangements may be made for the visits of schools and other educational institutions. Information concerning India and the Colonies, their products, industries, prospects for emigration, &c., may be obtained on verbal application at the Central stand in the Galleries, or applications may be addressed in writing to the Director of the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, S.W. Publications furnishing information relating to the commerce, agriculture, mining and other industries of India and the Colonies, as well as those relating to emigration, may also be obtained on application at the Central stand. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room attached to the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

2. The Scientific and Technical Department with extensive laboratories specially equipped for the purpose of investigating problems connected with tropical agriculture and development. In this Department new or little known natural products from India and the Colonies, and commercial products from new sources, received through the Government of the countries concerned, are examined with a view to their valuation and utilisation. The expert staff of the Department is also engaged in the collection of information from all sources on these and similar subjects.

3. The Library and Reading Rooms, containing a large collection of Indian and Colonial works of reference, which are regularly supplied with the principal official publications of India and the Colonies, and with many of the principal newspapers, periodicals and maps of the United Kingdom, India, and the Colonies.

4. Conference and Meeting Rooms which are available under certain conditions for the purpose of meetings, lectures, &c., on subjects of importance to India and the Colonies.

5. The "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute." This publication, which is now issued quarterly, includes reports on investigations conducted at the Imperial Institute, and also special articles relating to recent developments in tropical agriculture and in the utilisation of raw materials. The "Bulletin" may be obtained at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, or from Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, Fleet Street, E.C., price one shilling per number.

BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL.

27th December, 1906.

Particular attention is directed to the Notice appearing on page 597, respecting the supply to British firms of confidential information relative to their respective trades.

A statement of the Import Duties being levied by resolution under the new Canadian Tariff Proposals is published as a Supplement (Price One Penny) to the present issue of the "Journal."

Vol. LV. No. 526.

Price ONE PENNY.

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JAN 11

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Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

DECEMBER 27, 1906.

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* *For list of principal publications of Board of Trade see p.* v. *of Advertisements.*

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For Shippers' and Manufacturers' Advertisements, &c. (Index of), see pages ix.-xxiv. *of Advertisements.*

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Board of Trade Journal.

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11, Old Hall Street, LIVERPOOL. Telegraphic Address: "Olenne, Liverpool."

For Ireland—
MUNSTER, SIMMS & Co.,
7, Albert Square, BELFAST. Telegraphic Address: "Palmas, Belfast."

For Scotland—
WILLIAM HOUSTON,
59, St. Vincent Street, GLASGOW. Telegraphic Address: "Houston, Glasgow."

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CONTRACTS.

Beckenham Urban District Council.

The Beckenham Urban District Council invite tenders for the supply of about 250 lin. yds. of wrought-iron unclimbable fencing 6 ft. high, together with ornamental entrance gates.

Specifications and forms of tender obtained on application to Mr. John A. Angell, Surveyor, on and after December 14th, on the production of a receipt from the Collector (who attends his office daily from 9 to 10 a.m. only, except on Tuesdays, when his hours are from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.), for a deposit of £1, which will be returned on the receipt of a bona fide tender.

Tenders, duly sealed and endorsed "Tenders for Railings and Gates," to reach undersigned not later than 4 p.m., January 7th, 1907.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,
F. STEVENS,
Clerk to the Council.

Berkshire County Council.
Road Material.

The Berkshire County Council ask for tenders for the supply of broken Road materials, setts, channels and kerbs for the twelve months ending 31st March, 1908, delivered at railways stations and wharves in the County.

On the receipt of a stamped addressed envelope, forms of tender, list of stations and wharves, and full particulars will be forwarded by the County Surveyor.

Tenders, endorsed "Tender for Materials," to be sent to the undersigned by the 1st January, 1907.

The contractor will be required, if his tender be accepted, to enter into a contract to be prepared by the County Solicitor, such contract, if thought desirable by the Solicitor, to provide for two sureties. A specimen form of contract may be seen at the office of the Clerk of the County Council, 28, The Forbury, Reading.

J. FRED. HAWKINS,
Bank Chambers, County Surveyor.
Cross Street, Reading.
5th December, 1906.

CONTRACTS.

Stourport Urban District Council.
Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Works.
Contract No. 1.

The Urban District Council of Stourport invite tenders for the provision, laying, and jointing of Cast-Iron and Stoneware Pipe Sewers, together with manholes, lampholes, and flushing chambers, the construction of tank sewer, engine-house, liquefying tanks, distributing carriers, effluent drains, and other incidental works in accordance with the drawings and specification prepared by the Engineers.

Drawings and specification may be seen, and bills of quantities obtained, at the offices of the Engineers, Messrs. Willcox & Raikes, of 63, Temple Row, Birmingham, on or after the 26th of November, 1906, on payment of a deposit of 5 guineas, which will be refunded on receipt of a bona-fide tender and the return of all documents to the Engineers.

Sealed tenders, in the envelopes supplied, endorsed "Stourport Sewerage, Contract No. 1," to be delivered at my office not later than 12 o'clock noon on the 7th day of January, 1907.

By order,
C. HUGH WATSON,
Stourport, Clerk to the Council.
13th November, 1906.

Borough of Chelmsford.
New Street Improvement.

Tenders are invited for laying about 140 square yards of footpaths with concrete flags, excavating, laying a concrete foundation, and paving with wood blocks an area of about 800 square yards in New Street, Chelmsford.

Plan and specification may be seen at the office of the Borough Surveyor, Mr. Cuthbert Brown, A.M.I.C.E., 16, London Road, Chelmsford.

Tenders, endorsed "Tenders for Wood Paving," must be delivered at the office of the undersigned not later than the 12th day of January, 1907.

The Council does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

(By order), THOS. DIXON,
Town Clerk's Office, Town Clerk.
16, London Road, Chelmsford.
4th December, 1906.

CONTRACTS.

Horsham Urban District Council.
Tenders for Road Material.

The above-named Council invite tenders for the supply of the following road materials:—

450 tons of good hard stone, broken to $1\frac{1}{2}$-in. gauge;
350 yds. of broken pit flints, $1\frac{3}{4}$-in. gauge;

to be delivered free at Horsham Railway Station not later than the 30th of March, 1907, in such quantities and at such times as shall be directed in writing by the Council's Surveyor; the weights and measurements to be as taken in the trucks at Horsham Station by the said Surveyor.

Sealed tenders, endorsed "Tender for Road Materials," quoting a price per ton or yard, and accompanied by a small sample of the material quoted for, to be delivered to the undersigned not later than Tuesday, January 1, 1907.

Forms of tender are not supplied; and the Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order of the Council,
S. MITCHELL,
Clerk.
Council Offices, Horsham,
December 17, 1906.

Borough of Bootle.
To School Furnishers and others.

The Education Committee are prepared to receive tenders for supplying and fixing thirty-one sliding and folding partitions in the school-rooms at the various Council Schools in the Borough.

Specifications and drawings may be obtained at the office of the Borough Surveyor, Town Hall.

Tenders to be sent to the Town Clerk not later than 10 a.m. on Friday, January 18th, 1907, endorsed "Tender for Partitions."

The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender, or to defray any expense incurred by the persons tendering.

By order,
J. HENRY FARMER,
Town Clerk.
Town Clerk's Office,
December 17th, 1906.

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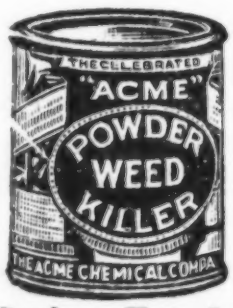

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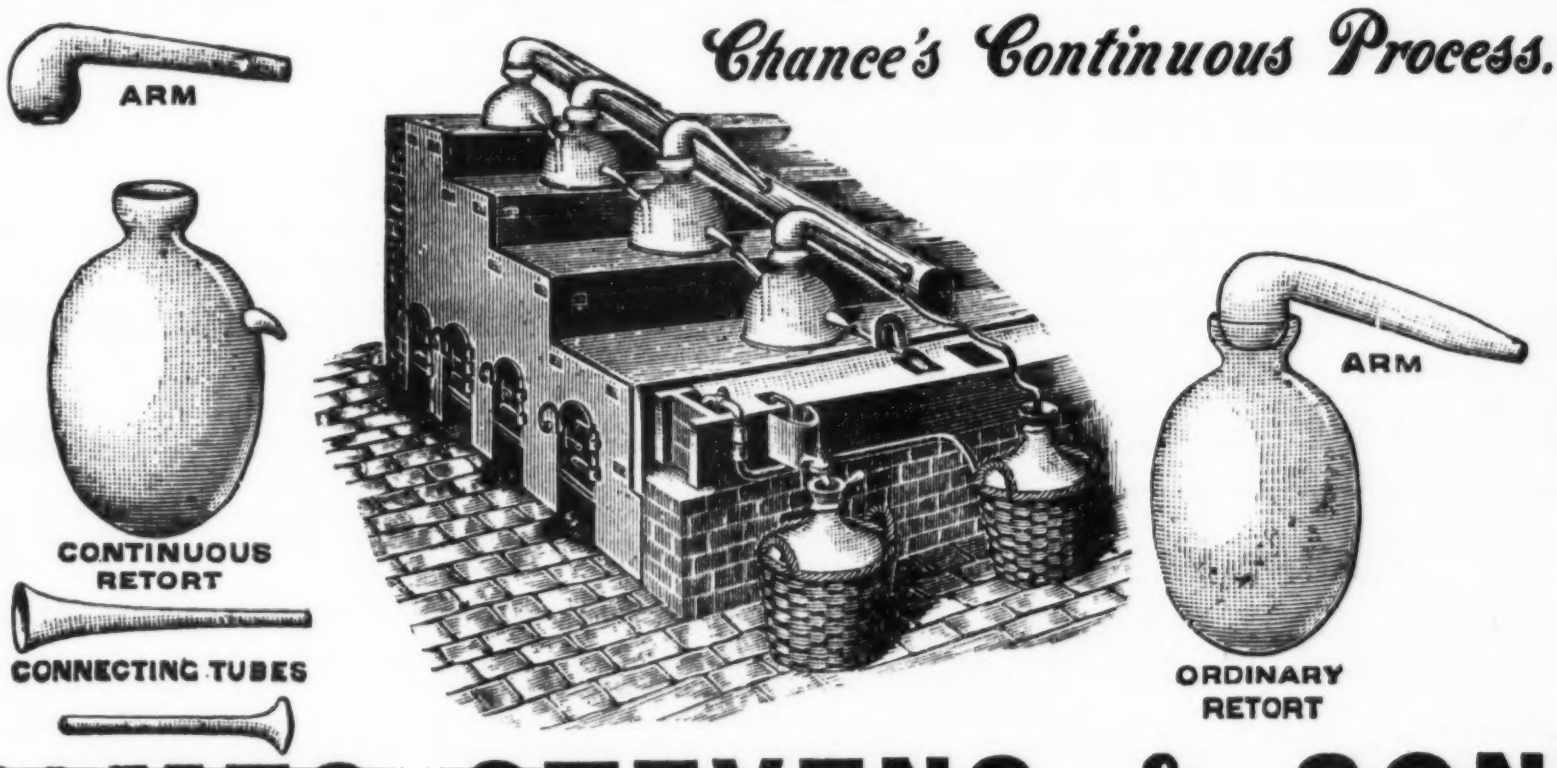

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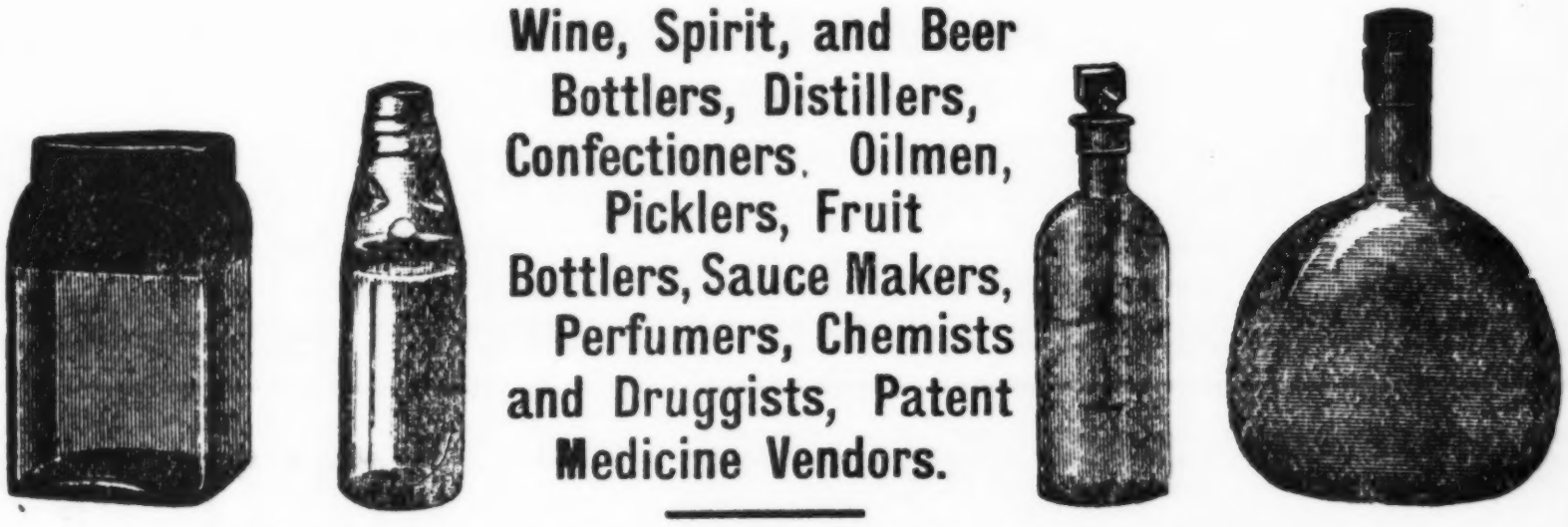

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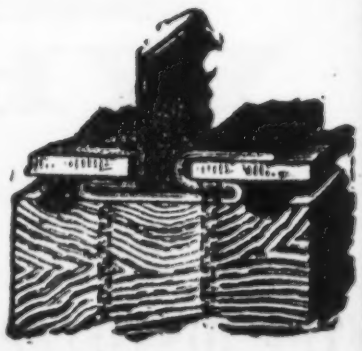

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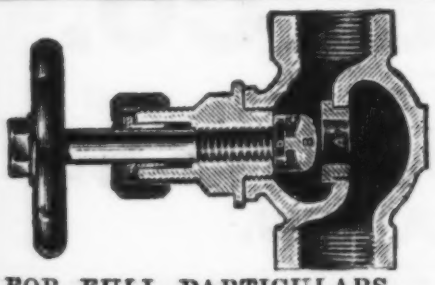

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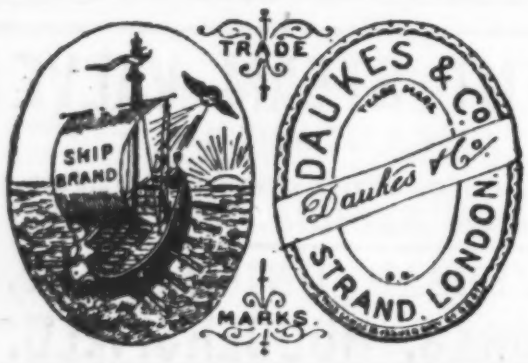

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